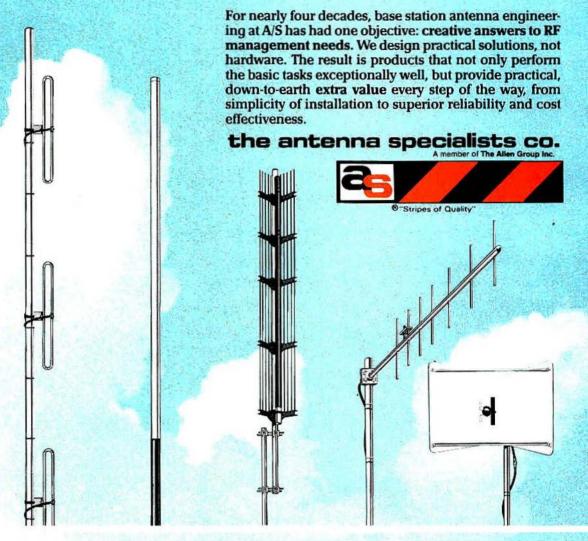




Base station antennas: A lot of blue sky thinking helped us to develop some very down-to-earth solutions.



Need optimum specs for your UHF system? Our Model ASP-705 offers minimum 10 dB gain a cross 20 MHz bandwiuth... power up to 500 Watts with optional pigtail... wind rating of 144 mi/h... and broadband coverage, 450-470 MHz.

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Need better closein coverage at 800 MHz? Test our SMR10e. Full 2° beam tilt with 10 dB gain for full coverage. Half the weight and half the cost of other pattern-depression antennas. Want full duplex economically in your sector sector cell sites? The solution is our 17 dB Series ASP-963 60° sector antennas with 55 MHz bandwidth capability, rated at 500 Watts RF power.

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Need maximum

Need maximum coverage from off-center location at 800 MHz? Our ruggedly designed ASP-960 covers the entire 806-890 MHz band without tuning or adjustment. Provides 9 dB gain with 23 dB minimum front-to-back. Accommodates up to 100 Watts RF power.



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YOU COULD SPEND UP TO \$1000 for lots of bells and whistles - colorful LEDs you only read once, channel capacity you'll never need or sexy graphics hidden away at your repeater. After all, it's your money, but...

FOR ONLY \$199* PLUS \$19.95 PER CHANNEL, Selectone's new ST-180 Digitone™ Shared Repeater Panel provides up to eight digitally programmable tone channels plus complete audio processing, timing and control functions in a compact (19 "L x 1.75 "H x 1.0") enclosure. But don't be fooled by its plain exterior. The ST-180 is loaded with high-tech features:

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- Low Current Drain draws less than 60 mA stand-by at 13.6 VDC ±20%.
- Easy to Install only 6 connections are required for most repeater applications.
- Low Cost Plug-in Tone Modules come equipped with one channel. Additional channels can be added at any time.
- *Dealer Net, Qty. 1-9. Base price includes one tone channel.

FOR FULL FACTS, CALL US TOLL-FREE AT (800) 227-0376

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Phone: (415) 887-1950 • TWX: 910-383-0709 • FAX: (415) 887-4011
In Canada: Eastcom Industries, Ltd. • 430 Signet Drive
Weston, Ontario M9L 2T6 • (416) 743-7801

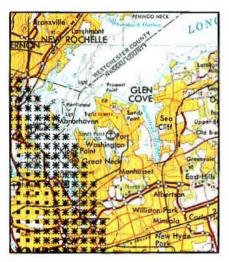
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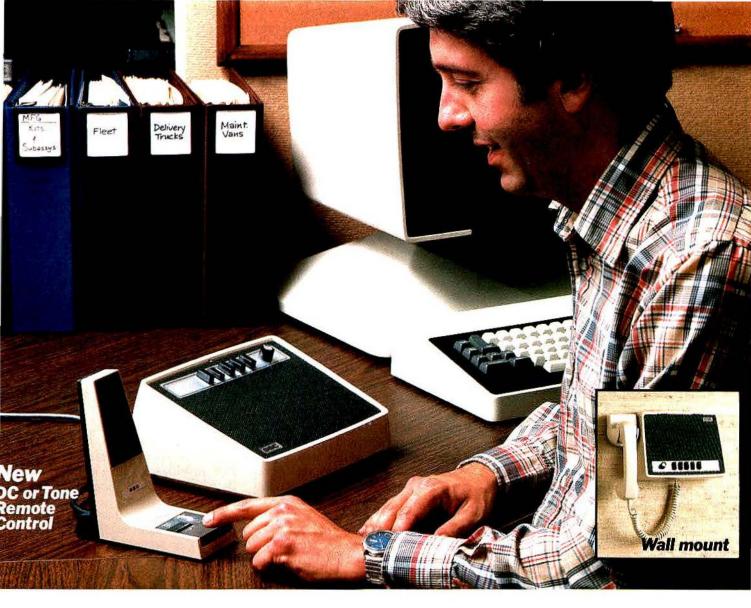
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ON THE COVER:

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Higher profit margins, reliability you can count on, and fast delivery. That's SSC.

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To make it easier for you to maintain higher profit margins, we keep our prices extra competitive.

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editorial



Cooperate to solve interference problems

"Can you believe it? An unlicensed user had the gall to complain to us because he was receiving interference from licensed business two-way radio users!"

Thus began one of several unlikely but true stories FCC staff members told during the Land Mobile Interference Workshop the agency's Denver district office held Oct. 15. Field operations bureau members Dennis Carleton, Steve Linn, Leo Cirbo, John Sprague and Rebecca Willman gave presentations, fielded questions and moderated discussions.

Two-way radio and paging system operators, technicians and equipment vendors attended the workshop. What became clear as a result of the information exchange is that interference is not solved by FCC "enforcement," by equipment or by frequency coordination alone. It is solved by cooperation, first among users and frequency coordinators, and second with FCC field operations bureau staff.

Station ID

Maybe it sounds too simple, but the first step in cooperation is to give station call signs frequently. It is difficult to summarize the station identification rules in a sentence. But roughly speaking, business and industrial users should give their call signs at least every 15 minutes during continuous operation, or during each occasional transmission or exchange of transmissions. The same applies to public safety users, except for a 30-minute requirement during continuous operation.

If automatic station identification equipment is used, it should be set to meet this requirement. And remember, if scrambling or encryption is used, call signs must be given "in the clear."

Station identification is vital because it reveals transmitter loca-

tion and frequency, important facts in resolving interference. "An FCC engineer may have to spend extra time investigating interference because stations involved, or not involved, do not identify as required. The engineer is likely to issue violation notices or, in extreme cases, notices of apparent liability (fines)," one staff member said, "even to the operator who brought the complaint. It is just as important for the complainant to identify properly so his transmissions can be distinguished from others."

Name that building

Also vital to other users and the FCC investigators alike is the identity of shared and single-user site managers. Every site manager should post his name and phone number outside each equipment building or security fence so extraordinary effort is not required to learn who is using particular sites.

"Aside from tracking interference to business and industrial radio communications," a staff member explained, "sometimes we have a critical need for access to a site because of interference that endangers life or property. We cannot require site managers to post this information. But we urgently request the posting of information that helps us reach someone with 24-hour access to the site. It should be posted where it can be seen outside the facility."

Want to help reduce interference problems? The first two steps are easy. Give your call sign frequently and place signs at your communications sites.

Oh, about that unlicensed user?

"We asked him his call sign," the FCC staffer said. "He didn't know what it was. We asked him his frequency. He didn't know that, either. The solution was clear. We put him off the air. No more interference."

-Don Bishop

NEWS

from transcrypt

Volume 1, No. 2

NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR TODAY'S RADIOS

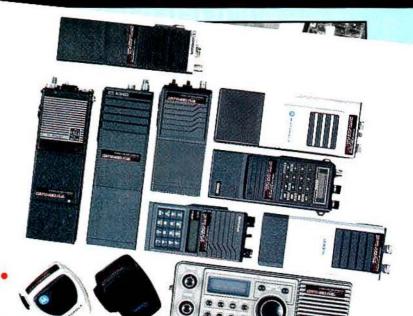
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Call or write for details...

themselves... real night quality..." (Dealer in Kentucky)

"Working very well...now every police officer wants the extra security... a real nice security addition to our system..."

(Police Department in Kansas)

California)

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"Thanks to all at Transcrypt for your good considerate service." (GE M/R in Idaho)

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transcrypt/international INC.

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1440 Buckingham, Lincoln, NE 68506

letters to the editor

I am not a ham radio operator. In fact, my occupation is in the mobile radio and radio common carrier business. But I am growing increasingly concerned as I hear the FCC is continuing to push for reallocation of the 220MHz ham radio segment.

My opinion of the FCC is declining steadily in the face of its recent radical changes (including institution of fee charges, even for emergency services, as well as hams). But its more recent moves go beyond reason.

If it feels such a compelling need to force reallocation of spectrum upon other users (including UHF commercial broadcasting), then perhaps it should consider reallocating some of the government channels between 150MHz and 174MHz. After all, that particular

segment (of which it has assigned itself 65%) is perhaps the most desirable due to its superior propagation characteristics (nominal atmospheric attenuation, nominal variance due to such random variables as hydrometeors, nominal interference due to "roughness" of terrain, virtually no "skip" and sufficiently short wavelength to enable sky-based antenna structures and gain antennas).

Apparently the bureaucrats were counting on spectrum users as being a silent majority of the voting populace. I think they are beginning to find out otherwise.

Steve Short Pocatello, ID

You are doing a great job. I cannot think of any changes that would greatly improve your publication. Quality and in-depth articles. I am in the public safety sector and so am not very interested in cellular, only what technology it has spawned. Ronald Blecha Nebraska State Patrol, radio engineering

More on radio frequency interference generated by various sources.

Sanford Meschkow

ROB Enterprises

W. Conshohocken, PA

Very good job. Look forward to each issue. Thanks.

K.R. Stevens Stevens Radio Rochester, NY

Minden, NE



Mobile Radio Technology

The journal of mobile communications technology

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leum/energy products companies, public utilities and others allied to the field.

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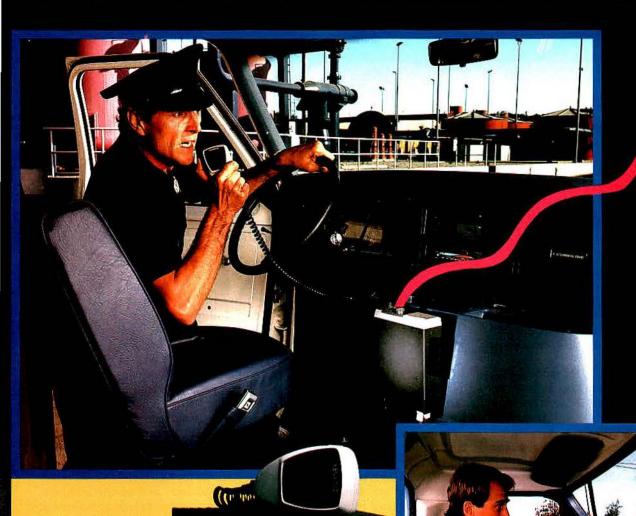
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The message is clear Kenwood advances communications.



The TK-720 VHF and TK-820 UHF mobile radios are the newest additions to our new generation of land mobile radios. Housed within rugged, full metal cases and equipped with amber LED displays and automatic dimmer circuits, both models are designed to meet industry's toughest demands. The TK-720 wide band design and 32 channel capability allows it to be used in a diversity of applications. Engineered for top performance, the TK-820 features a transmitter spread of 15 Mhz. To assure maximum expandability, both the TK-720 and TK-820 are compatible with a full complement of optional accessories.

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TK-720/TK-820

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What all the talk is about.



1988 Buyers' Guide

MRT's annual directory provides you essential information you will want to retain for quick reference year-round. Products and services are listed, as well as trade associations and FCC offices.

Welcome to the first directory issue of *Mobile Radio Technology*. You will find it a complete product and services source for the mobile radio industry.

We have worked for months with cooperative industry authorities and our editorial advisory board to establish informative categories and to compile data. We mailed questionnaires to suppliers and service companies, and we asked them to list the products and services they offer. This "Buyers' Guide" is designed to be an easily used reference for an entire year. It is divided into five sections: the Product Directory, the Services Directory, Company Addresses, Trade Associations and FCC Offices.

The **Product Directory** lists more than 150 categories of equipment and suppliers. Under each heading is a comprehensive list of the companies that offer that par-

ticular product. More than 300 companies are listed.

Under the product headings, you will find some companies listed in blue. These are advertisers in this issue, and the page numbers serve as reference for additional information directly from the manufacturers, either by contacting them or using the ads' Fast Fact numbers and returning the Fast Fact Card on page 131.

For your convenience, two Fast Fact Cards are bound into this issue. Each card is valid for a full year. By circling the appropriate numbers associated with manufacturers' and services companies' advertisements, you can obtain additional information directly from the product or service source.

The Services Directory follows the Product Directory and lists 12 service categories and the companies that provide them. Again, you will find blue listings for advertisers that appear in this issue.

Following the product and services directories, you will find an alphabetized index of Company Addresses, as well as phone numbers for convenience, for all the companies listed in this "Buyers' Guide." Regional sales contacts are listed for advertisers in this issue.

As part of our directory, MRT sorts out the various trade groups in mobile radio in our Trade Associations listing. Here you will find the addresses and phone numbers of the numerous trade associations representing mobile radio interests.

FCC Offices are listed for your convenience following the industry associations listings.

MRT's staff has made every attempt to make this first "Buyers' Guide" accurate and complete. However, because so many suppliers are involved in this field and new entrants always are surfacing, some companies or organizations and products or services may have been overlooked. If yours is one of these companies or organizations, please send your company's name and address during the upcoming year to Pat Blanton, MRT Directory Editor, P.O. Box 12901, Overland Park, KS 66212. This will help make next year's "Buyers' Guide" an even better reference.



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Free yourself from expensive leased lines.

Are you being "handcuffed" by high monthly leased-line costs? Are you unable to expand your radio system because leased lines are too expensive, take too long to install, or simply aren't available? Cetec Vega has the answer! Operate over a dial-up phone line by installing a Model RP-250 station panel at your remote base and one or more Model C-550 consoles at your control points, and operate over a dial-up telephone line.

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The dial-up remote system allows you more flexibility in adding licensed

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- Fast and easy installation
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- Autodialing with advanced call

RP-250 Remote Station Panel

- Originate timer (drops line if no dial)
- tone or if call not answered)

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- Accessible by built in DTMF or any

control points to your radio system without the need for multiple leased lines. The system also allows you to install a remote base station at a temporary location, to communicate with field personnel even when they are hundreds of miles away, and to "back up" microwave links or unreliable leased lines inexpensively, without the delay and expense of leased-line installation.



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The Liberator





Product Directory

Calegory	Microwave equipment (except antennas)	Attenuators
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For more information on the products and services listed in blue, turn to the page listed with the entry to find the company's advertisement. Note the Fast Fact number assigned to the advertisement, and circle this number on the Fast Fact Card on page 131 in this issue and return the card to MRT. See example at right. The cards are valid for one year.



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See Adv. Page

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Global Thermoelectric Power	ANTENNA SITE EQUIPMENT	Secom Systems
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Wisco International Ltd.	Cavity Filters	
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TOUGH ENOUGH!

At CT Systems we go to great lengths to prove how tough our 3000B Communication Service Monitor really is.

Oh, Sure! It not only meets but EXCEEDS military standards. But that's not enough for us. Not by a long shot!

We subject each and every 3000B to power cycling, severe temperatures and strong vibrations. And once we've done all of that, we demand that each one successfully completes our uncompromising, automated quality-control test system.

Now, wouldn't you think we'd guit while we were ahead?

Wrong! We decided to try a few things like . . . watching the 3000B tumble end over end down a 10 foot flight of stairs . . . tossing it 15 feet onto a concrete floor at Expo East last year . . . dropping it 75 feet to the ground from a helicopter. Just to see if it still performed. It did. Like a champ!

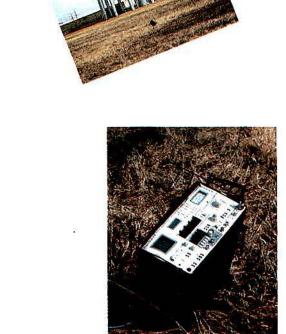
Now why do all of this to a full featured Laboratory Service Monitor? To prove a point.

If the CT Systems 3000B can take that kind of punishment, then it's tough enough to give you years of dependable performance.

In the field or on the bench. At 400kHz or 999.9999mHz. The CT Systems 3000B Service Monitor is TOUGH ENOUGH!

Why don't you make us put our monitor where our mouth is? Give us a call at 800-245-6356 for full specifications and a demonstration of the 3000B Service Monitor. After all, seeing is believing.

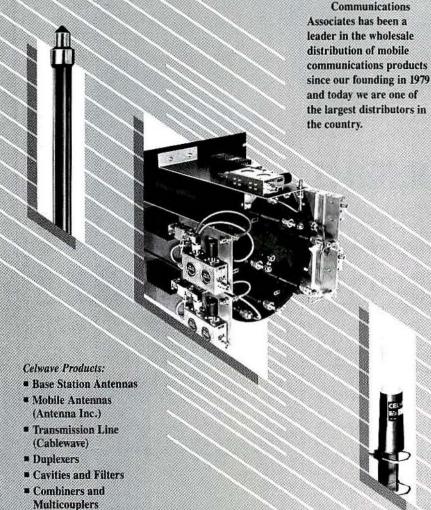
CT SYSTEMS, INC **5245 HORNET AVE.** P.O. BOX 470 **BEECH GROVE, IN 46107-0470**



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AAT Communications Corp. Air Comm
The Antenna Farm, Inc. Antenna Specialists Co
Beam Radio Inc
Cartwright Communications Co.
Celwave
Celwave 17 Communications Associates, Inc 14
The Communications Center
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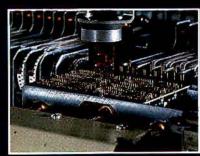
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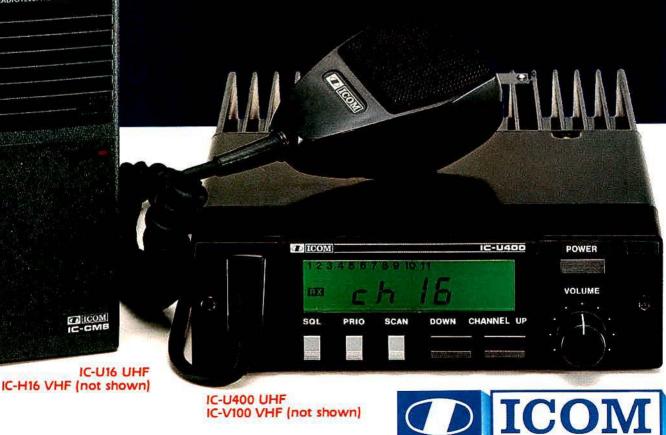
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Now available is the IC-U400 16-channel synthesized remote or dash mountable 35-watt UHF wideband mobile...with advanced features including programmable frequencies with priority scan, metal chassis construction and cloning capability. The 50-watt VHF version, the **IC-V100**, is also available.

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Sinclair Radio Labs Inc.	
Telewaye, Inc.	67
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Wacom Products Inc.	
Wisco International Ltd.	

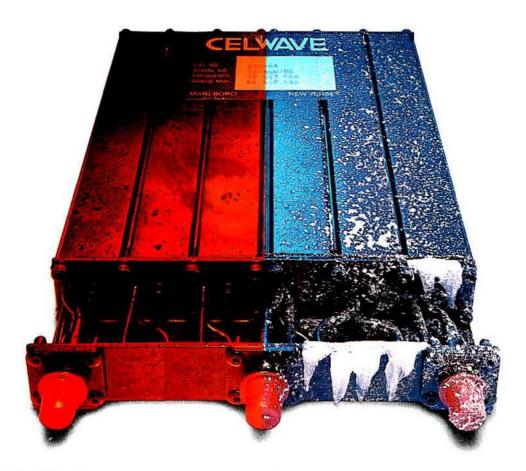
Wisco International Ltd.	
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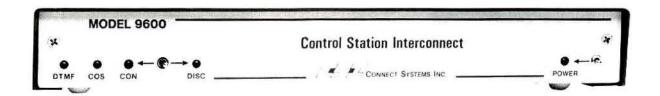


Florida, Inc.
Anixter Bros., Inc.
The Antenna Farm, Inc.
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Cartwright Communications Co.
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Designing the highest performance Simplex Patch in the industry was a tough job...

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Our 9600 outperforms <u>all</u> competition...or your money back*. IT'S THAT SIMPLE.



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- Direct voice dispatching
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- Activate horn honkers
- Eavesdrop the channel
- Ringout calls to mobile

FROM THE MOBILE

Initiate phone calls

The all new 9600 by CSI is an extremely user friendly VOX base station interconnect. The 9600 will operate with any simplex base station radio and is fully compatible with any conventional or trunked repeater system. (An optional plug in electronic voice delay board [1/2] sec. delay] is recommended when used through repeaters.) A dip switch allows the selection of fully regenerated DTMF or pulse converted dialout thus making the 9600 compatible with all telephone systems. The 9600 is operated with */# or multi-digit connect/disconnect. A secret five digit toll override connect code allows one toll call. Re-arm is automatic. Built in CW identification or beeps give positive indication of disconnect.

The 9600 can be fully controlled from any telephone, and also provide DTMF to regenerated DTMF end to end signalling. This capability permits dispatch and/or selectively calling any mobile, or activating horn honkers from any phone in the plant. Our new state of the art digital call progress tone detection scheme will automatically disconnect the 9600 on return of dialtone if the telephone dispatcher forgets to send # before hanging up.

STANDARD FEATURES

- */# or multi-digit connect/disconnect
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- Fully regenerated tone dialing
- · Pulse dialing
- Toll protestion
- · Secret tell override code
- · Busy signal disconnect
- · Dialtone disconnect
- · CW identification
- · Activity timer
- Timeout timer (resettable by mobile)
- · Telephone initiated control
- · Telephone controlled switch
- · Regenerated DTMF selective calling
- Hingout
- Ringout or auto answer on 1-8 rings
- Busy channel ringout inhibit
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- · Internally squelched audio
- . MOV lightning protection
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- · COS potarity reversal
- Keyset compatible
- 12 VDC powered

24 dip switches make all 9600 features programmable/selectable.

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OPTIONS

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- · CW ID chip
- FCC registered coupler

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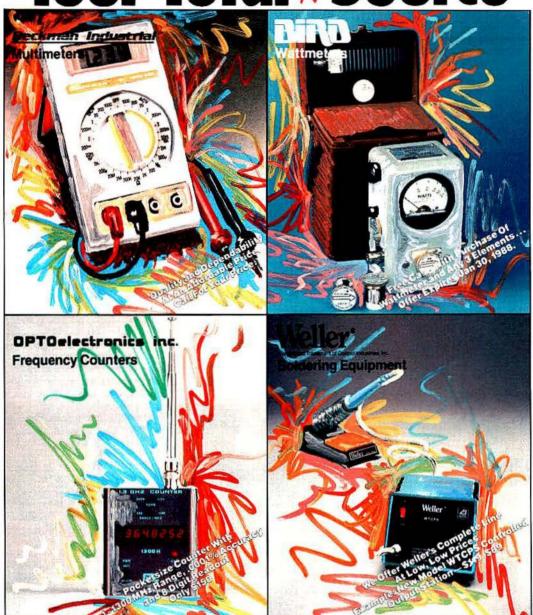
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Larsen Electronics, Inc. 35	Tessco 21
LeBlanc & Royle Telcom Inc.	Two Comm Inc.
Maxrad Inc	Les Wallen USA
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NCG Companies R F Products	ANTENNAS, TWO-WAY DISPATCH, SMR
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Secom Systems Signals Communications Corp.	37.777.6
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Two Comm Inc.	Antenna Specialists Co IFC
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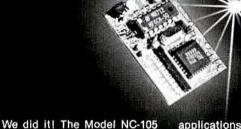
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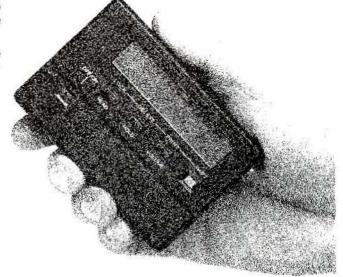
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- EXTERNAL AUDIO JACK
- FAST CHARGER
- ALL CONNECTIONS MADE WITH ONE SLIDING LEVER.
- CONSTRUCTED TO COMPLIMENT THE KING RADIO LINE.

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

R.F. Amplifier. Audio Amplifier: Charger: Input Voltage:

Current Drain: Connections:

Dimensions: Weight: Operating Temp.: Indicators: Security:

30 Watts VHF, 20 Watts UHF, 20 Watts, 800 MHZ 8 Watts to External Speaker Jack, 5 Watts to Internal Speaker

Automatic Thermal Sensing, 3 Hour Fast Charge, Normal Charge 12.2 VDC to 15.0 VDC

5 Amps when Transmitting

Automatic through Sliding Contact Block

8"W × 21/4"H × 91/2"D 3 Pounds

- 30° to + 60°C

Led Indicators for Audio On, Fast and Normal Charge, R.F. On

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Two Comm Inc.

W & W Associates, (Batteries 'R' US)

BATTERY CHARGERS AND CHARGER/ANALYZERS

Alexander Batteries, c/o Alexander68-69 Bendix/King Cadex Electronics Inc.

Canadian Marconi Co. Cartwright Communications Co.

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Exar Corp.

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Circle (27) on Fast Fact Card

Above and Beyond AR2002

PROFESSIONAL MONITOR RECEIVER

25 - 550 MHz 800 - 1300 MHz



Specifications:

Receiving mode - Narrow band FM, Wide band FM & AM

Receiver circuit - Microprocessor controlled PLL Frequency synthesized superheterodyne type with high-level doubled balanced mixer

Receiver IF - 750MHz, 45.03MHz, 5.5 MHz (WFM) and 455kHz (NFM & AM)

Sensitivity - NFM - 0.35 uV (12dB SINAD) WFM- 1.00 uV (12dB SINAD) AM - 1.00 uV (10dB S/N) (10dB S/N)

> Selectivity - NFM - ± 7.5kHz @ 6dB ± 20kHz @ 70dB

WFM - ±50kHz@ 6dB ± 250kHz @ 60dB

AM - ±5.0kHz@ 6dB ±10kHz @ 70dB

Number of memory channel - 20 channels Scan rate – 5 channels per second Search rate – 6 seconds per MHz

Antenna connector — Standard BNC type, 50-ohm Audio output power — 1 watt at less than 10% THD. Power requirement — 12 to 14Vdc at 300 to 500mA Size and weight — 5.4°W x 3.15°H x 7.88°D, 2.6 lbs.

Cradled mobile mounting bracket Trunk lid mobile antenna with 12 ft cable Discone base antenna with 30 ft cable RS-232C Interface unit

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AR2002

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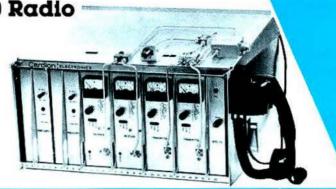
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Florida, Inc.	Cellular Depot Inc.
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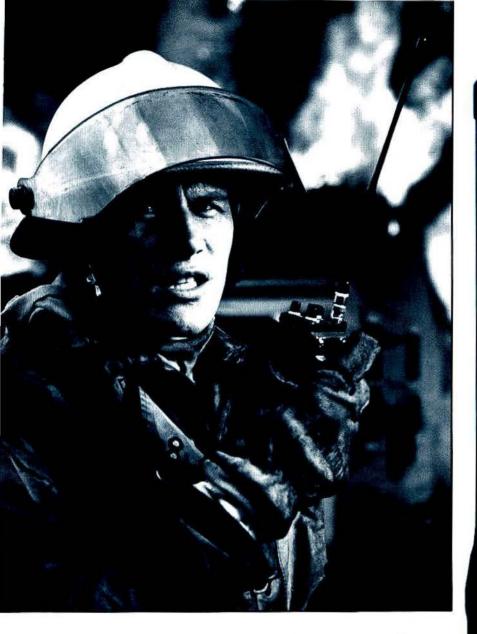
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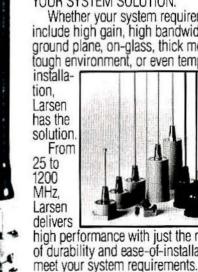


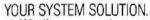


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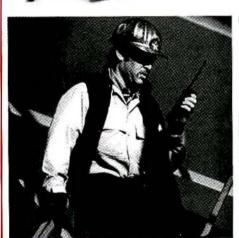
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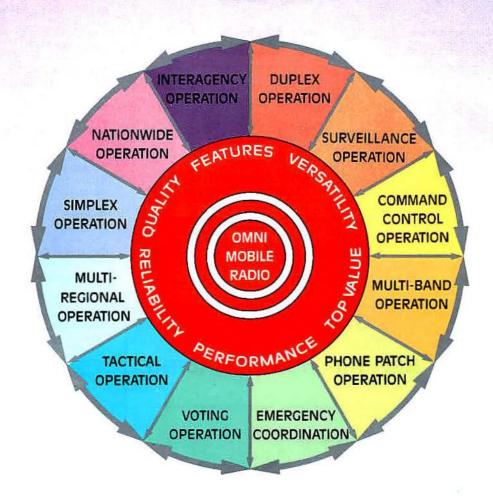






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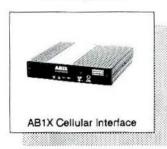
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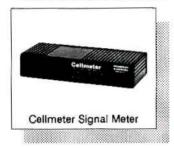
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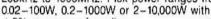
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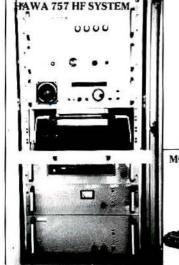
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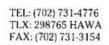




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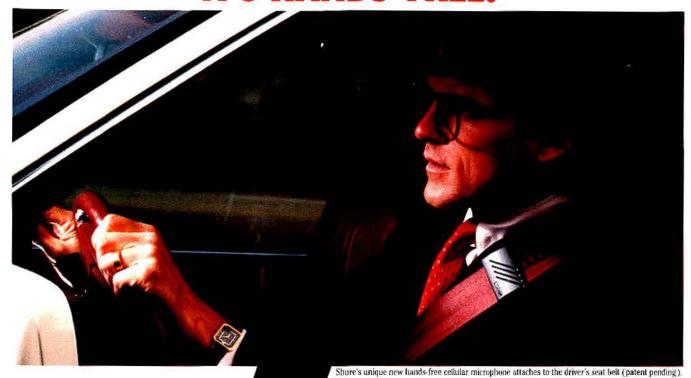
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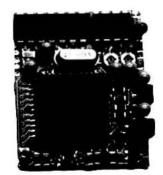


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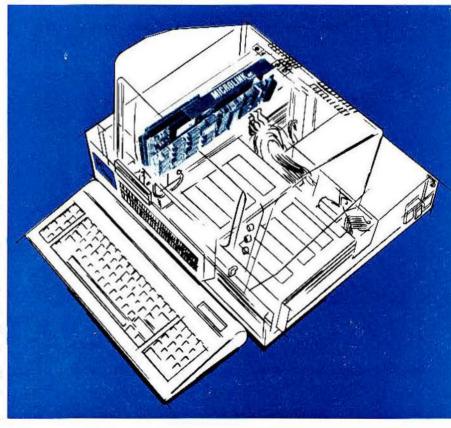
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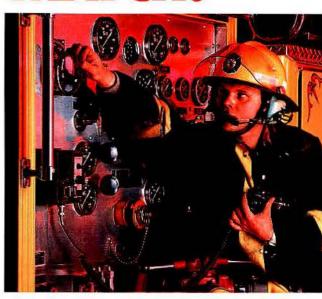
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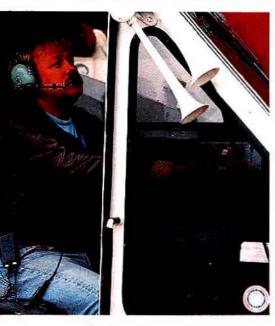
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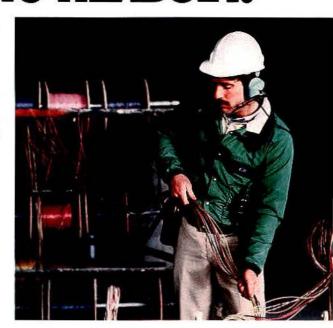


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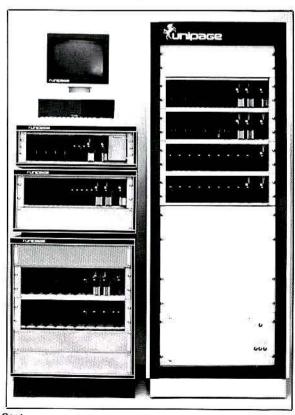
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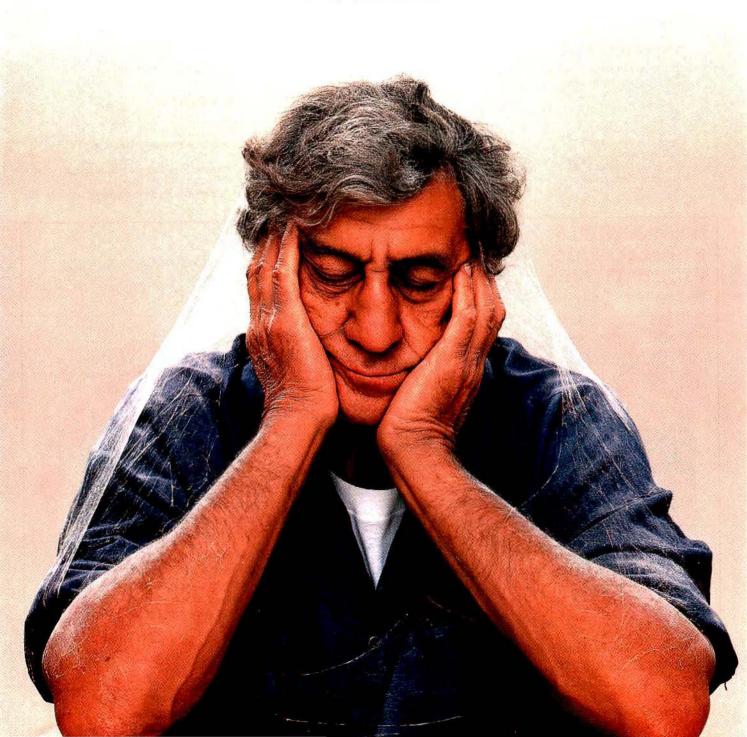
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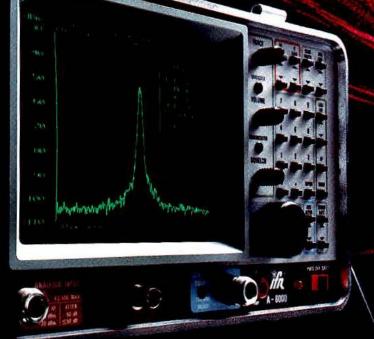
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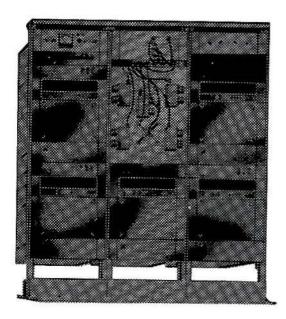
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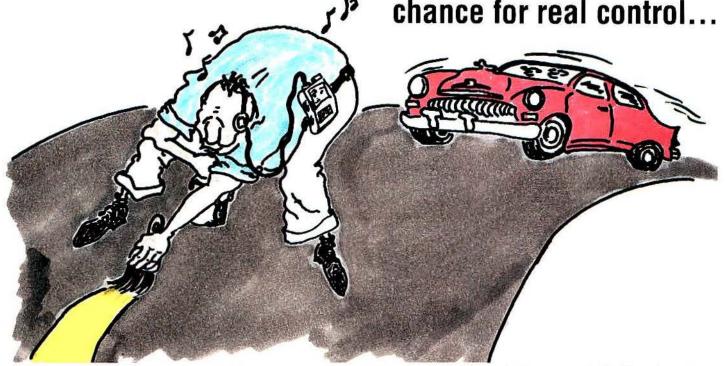
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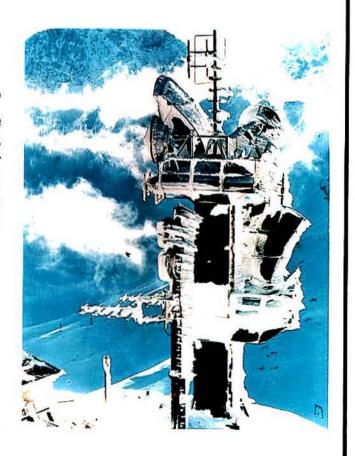
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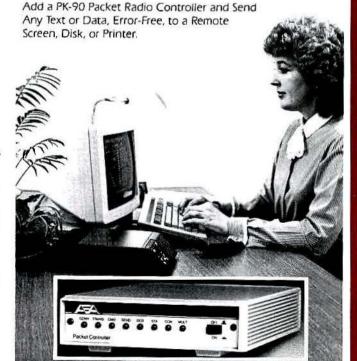
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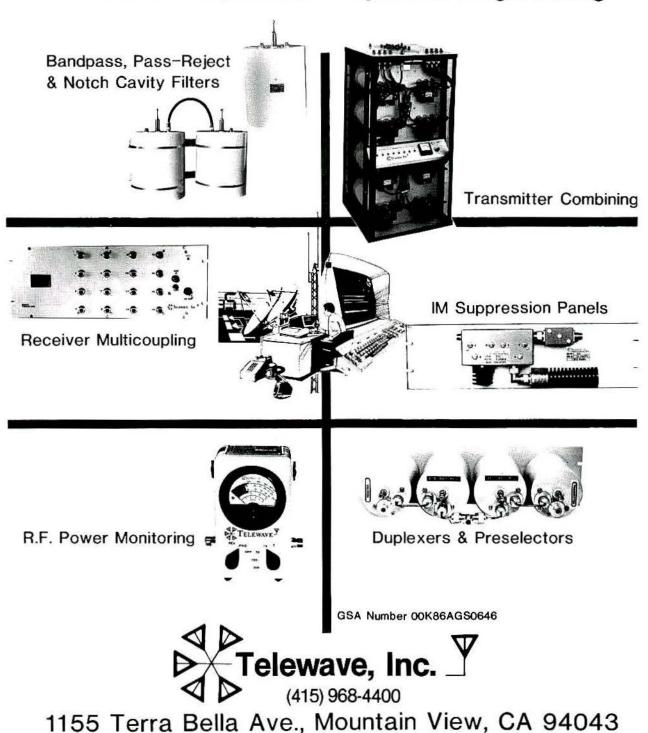


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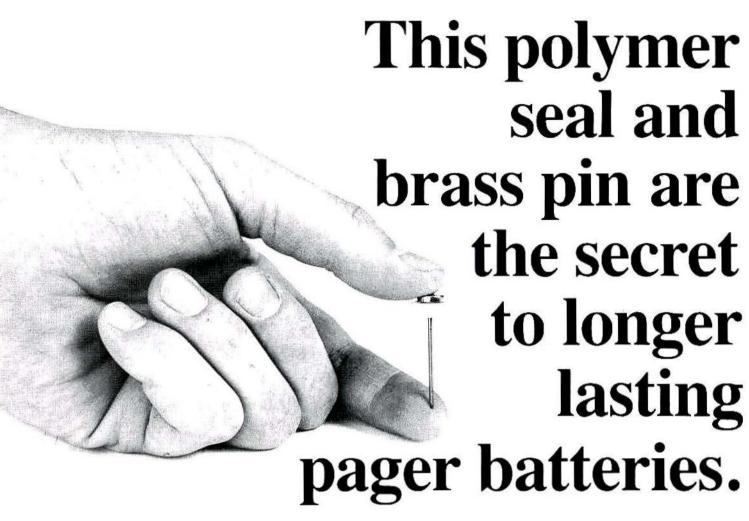
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New separator material lengthens shelf life.

Microcalorimetry, measuring heat output in terms of microcalories, was applied to measure the normal electro-chemical reactions within the cell. Comparisons between separators were then made to determine which separator caused the least amount of self discharge.

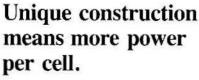
As a result of using this technology, Alexander discovered a unique new separator material that creates a self-discharge rate as low as those rates currently acceptable for implantable pacemakertype cells (10 u watt).

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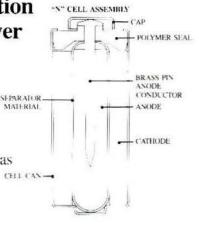
In addition to testing all inputs — chemicals and separator — we test each cell as it comes off our automated production line. Then the battery is put into storage for a predetermined length of time that varies by battery type. Each battery is tested again just prior to shipping to make sure it has the power you're paying to receive.

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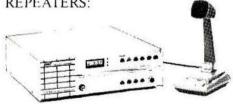
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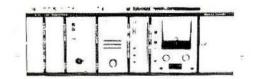
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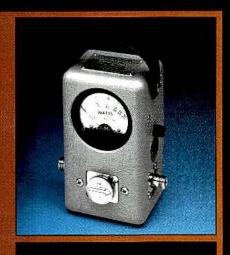
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We've got RF Amplifiers instock. Delivery when you need it. Guaranteed to specs, year after year. We've got our depend able reputation behind these products and offer them at realistic prices. You can count on Henry Radio!

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Why spend money on phoneline rental and modems when you can send any alphanumeric information via your existing radio?

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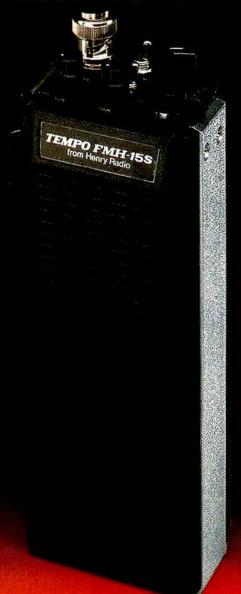




Tempo Hand-Held Radios Full line of accessories.

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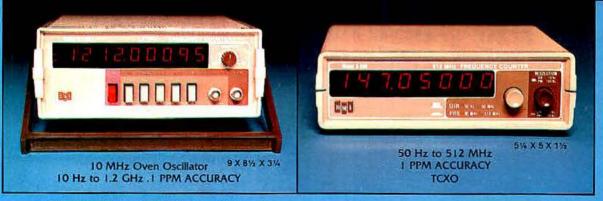
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Communications Specialists, Inc	DTMF Encoders	Palamor Engineers
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Optional factory installed rechargeable battery pack available

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MODEL PRICE FREQUENCY	FREQUENCY	ACCURACY OVER TEMPERATURE	READ OUTS	SENSIT	POWER			
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D500	\$149.95	50 Hz-512 MHz	1 PPM 17*-35*C TCXO TIME BASE	TCXO 8		15 to 50 MV	20 to 50 MV to 450 MHz 50 to 100 MV to 1 GHz	8-15 VDC
D510	\$179.95	50 Hz-1.0 GHz			•			300 MA AC-12
D612	\$259.95	50 Hz-1.2 GHz	0.1 PPM 20"-40"C PROPORTIONAL 10 MHz OVEN	Security	15 to 50 MV	15 to 50 MV	REQ. FOR	
D1200	\$299.95	10 Hz-1.2 GHz		9	15 to 50 MV	to 450 MHz 20 to 100 MV to 1 GHz	8-15 VOC 500 MA	

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Company Addresses begin on page 90



MODEL VS-50M

9 Autry Irvine, CA 92718 (714) 458-7277

ASTRON POWER SUPPLIES

RS, RM and VS SERIES SPECIAL FEATURES

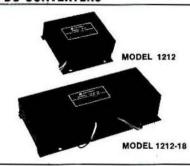
- . SOLID STATE ELECTRONICALLY REGULATED
- FOLD-BACK CURRENT LIMITING Protects Power Supply from excessive current & continuous shorted output.
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- MAINTAIN REGULATION & LOW RIPPLE at low line input Voltage.
- . HEAVY DUTY HEAT SINK . CHASSIS MOUNT FUSE
- . HEAVY DUTY . HIGH QUALITY . RUGGED . RELIABLE .
 - THREE CONDUCTOR POWER CORD
 - ONE YEAR WARRANTY MADE IN U.S.A.

PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS

- INPUT VOLTAGE: 105 125 VAC
- OUTPUT VOLTAGE: 13.8 VDC ± 0.05 volts (Internally Adjustable: 11-15 VDC)
- RIPPLE: Less than 5mv peak to peak (full load & low line)
- Also available with 220 VAC Input Voltage

RM-A SERIES	MODEL 1	9" X 51/4 RACK Continuous Duty (Amps)	MOUNT ICS* (Amps)	POWER SUPPLIES Size (IN) H x W x D	Shipping Wt. (lbs.)
- 122	RM12A	9	12	5¼ x 19 x 8¼	16
	RM-35A	25	35	51/4 x 19 x 121/2	38
	RM-50A	37	50	51/4 x 19 x 121/2	50
A ASTRON OF	 Separate Volt and 	Amp Meters		01-11-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12	
	RM-35 M	25	35	5¼ x 19 x 12½	38
MODEL RM-35M	RM-50 M	37	50	5¼ x 19 x 12½	50
IS-A SERIES	RS-4A	3	4	3¾ x 6½ x 9	5
-	RS-5A	4	5	31/2 x 61/8 x 71/4	7
	RS-7A	_5_	.7	33/4 x 61/2 x 9	9 11 13 18 27
	RS-10A	7.5 9	10	4 x 7½ x 10¾	11
	RS-12A		12 20	4½ x 8 x 9	13
S amore	RS-20 A	16 25	35	5 x 9 x 10½	18
	RS-35A RS-50A	37	50	5 x 11 x 11 6 x 13¾ x 11	46
MODEL RS-7A	HO-DUA	31	50	0 X 1394 X 11	40
RS-M SERIES	a formation and a	ad Ama mater			
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	RS-12M	9	12	41/2 x 8 x 9	13
学	 Separate volt Am 	p meters			
	RS-20M	16	20	5 x 9 x 101/2	18
A	RS-35M	25	35	5 x 11 x 11	27
	RS-50M	37	50	6 x 13 ³ / ₄ x 11	46
MODEL RS-35M					
VRM/VS-M SERIES				djustable from 2-15 volts	
		stable from 1.5 amps to			
No. of the last of		7 13 BYDC@r10VDC@r5VDC	@13.8V		
2007 CV25	VS-20M	16 9 4	20	5 x 9 x 10 1/2	20
7.0	VS-35M	25 15 7	35	5 x 11 x 11	29 46
	VS-50M	37 22 10	50	6 x 1334 x 11	46
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	VRM-35M	25 15 7	35	51/4 x 19 x 121/2	38
MODEL VS-35M	VRM-50M	37 22 10	50	51/4 x 19 x 121/2	50

DC-DC CONVERTERS



MODEL 1212 & 1212-18 Switching Regulated Converter.

Designed for FM transceivers and other applications requiring 12 volt power source converted from 12 volt positive ground battery. Regulation with pulse width modulation at 20 KHz.

Input—12V DC (Positive ground only), Functional from —11 V DC to—16 V DC. Output +13.8 V DC

(Negative ground only).	1212		1212-18	
Output Voltage	13.8 V DC =	±.2 V DC	13.8 V DC	±.2 V DC
Line/Load Regulation	200 mV		200 mV	
Ripple/Noise	50 mV RMS		50 mV RMS	
Current Continuous	6 Amp		14 Amp	
Current (ICS)	9 Amp		18 Amp	
Current Limit	12 Amp		19 Amp	
Case	23/4" (H) x 6" (W) x 6" (D)	23/4" x 6" x	12"
Shipping Weight	2 lbs.		4 lbs.	



MODEL 2412 & 2412-16 Switching Regulated Converter.

Designed for FM transceivers and other applications requiring 12 volt power source converted from 24 volt battery. Regulation with pulse width modulation at 20 KHz.

Input ± 28 V DC (Negative ground only), Functional from ± 22 V DC to ± 32 V DC. Output ± 13.8

V DC (Negative ground only). 2412 2412-16 13.8 V DC 13.8 V DC **Output Voltage** ±.2 V DC ±.2 V DC Line/Load Regulation 200 mV 200 mV Ripple/Noise 50 mV RMS 50 mV RMS **Current Continuous** 9 Amp 16 Amp Current Limit 12 Amp 20 Amp 23/4" (H) x 6" (W) x 6" (D) 23/4" x 6" x 12" Case 2 lbs. Shipping Weight 4 lbs.

ALSO! AVAILABLE AS MODEL 3612 & 3612-16: +36 V DC (Negative ground only) AND AS MODEL 4812 & 4812-16: +48 V DC (Negative ground only).

Pipo Communications	
Raven Electronics Corp. Raven Radio Mfg., Inc	
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Ferritronics Inc. M. Hutton & Co.	70 16
Ferritronics Inc.	70 16

Meridian Communications, Inc.

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Circle (75) on Fast Fact Card

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ALARM PANEL — Audible alert and remote alarm

BRIGHTER IDEA, STROBES

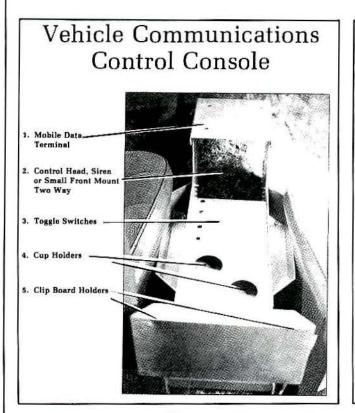
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Data Signal, Inc	Communications Associates, Inc	14	Bramco Inc.	

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- Rack and wall mount versions
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100% Electronic and Mechanical Back Up Reliability.

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Complete Microprocessor

Control. No more guess work! Time Code, Fail Safe, and programmable transfer time are standard. In the unlikely event of failure(s) the advanced digital display Fail Safe system shows you precise channel failure.

Central Processing Unit (CPU) Diagnostics. Not only does the control diagnostics test tell when there is a problem, it tells where the problem is within the control unit.

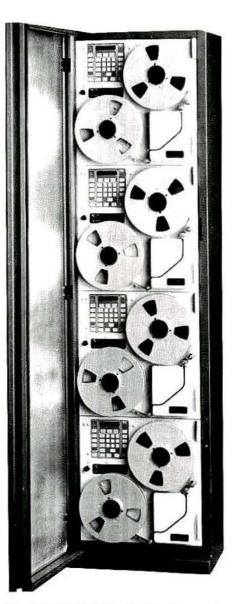
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Improvements in tape handling and head contour significantly increase tape and head life. Head replacement in 5 minutes — the fastest and easiest available. Three year head warranty is **standard.**

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The **SPECIALIST**** is the latest in a series of computer-controlled recording systems. Each deck offers up to 60 record/reproduce channels (options of 10, 20, 30, 40, and 60 channels). Used alone, each deck can be operated in a transportable desk-top cabinet. With 4 record/playback decks housed in a single cabinet, up to 240 channels can be available (as shown).

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Easy Maintenance, Less Down Time. All components are accessible from the front — you don't have to move the machine or go behind for maintenance.

Fast and Easy System Expansion.

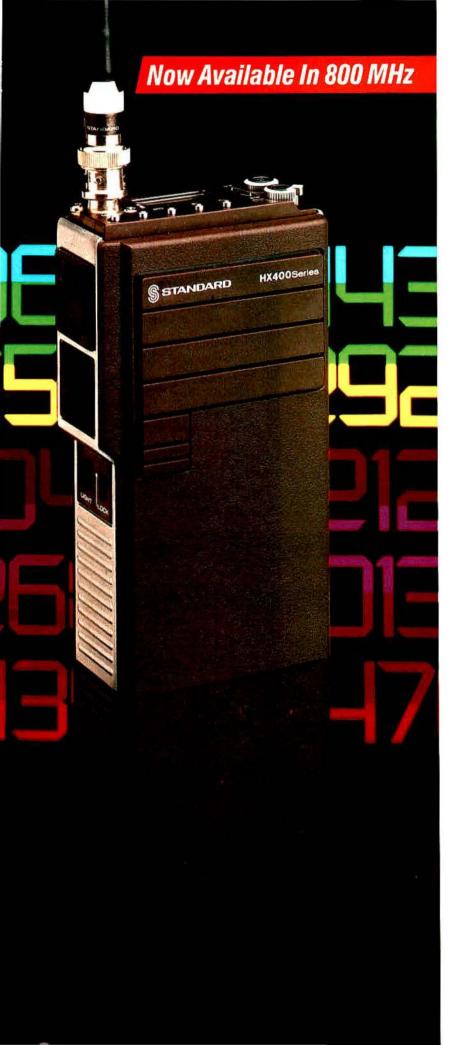
No need to return your SPECIALIST⁹⁹ to add channels. Add channels yourself or our service personnel will be glad to come do it for you.

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You can have 40 record and reproduce channels with a back up system in half the space of competitive models. Or you can have 80 channels with back up in the same amount of space as that of competitive models with 40 channels.

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Cetec Vega 9	M. Hutton & Co. LeBlanc & Royle Telcom Inc.	10	Spectrum Communications Corp Standard Communications Corp	
Cleartone Telecoms Ltd.	Milcom International Inc.	26	Syntec Communications Systems	0
Dinet Inc.	Motorola Inc., Communications Sector		Tait Electronics USA, Inc106	3,14
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Not to boast, but since 1983 our HX200 Horizon Hand-Phone has become the world's largest-selling marine portable, one which has garnered an award for design and engineering excellence from the National Marine Electronics Association.

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Features include 25 channels and 5-watt power output in both UHF and VHF models. A host of microprocessor controlled functions include one-touch channel selection, priority channel with dual watch capability that continues to monitor your priority channel, 2-to 25-channel programmable scan with memory, and a backlighted high visibility liquid crystal digital display.

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The HX400 packs all these features into a rugged 28-ounce chassis that includes a twist-off, rechargeable battery pack.

The HX400 has been worth the wait, but wait no longer.



Channel number and microprocessor function are displayed on the HX400's easy-to-read LCD information center. Pushbutton controls for all functions are right where you can see them, making the HX400 simple to use.

Contact your nearest authorized Standard Communications Sales and Service Center or:

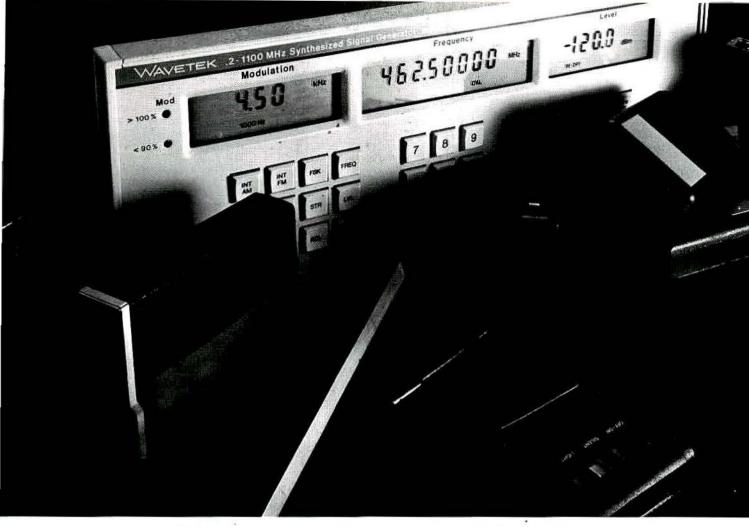


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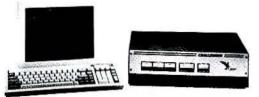
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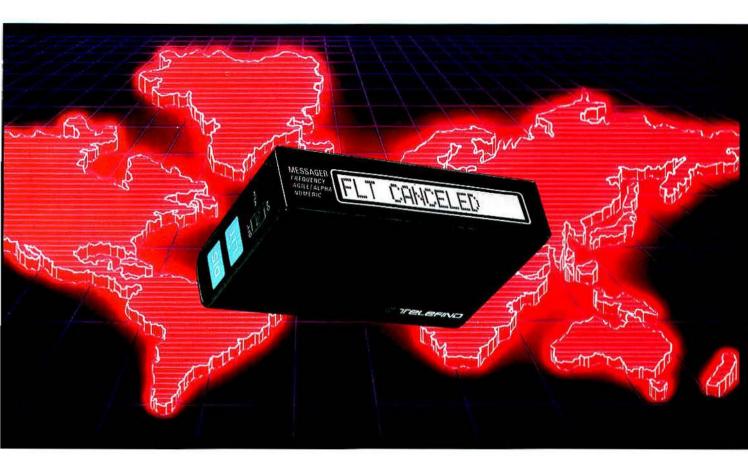
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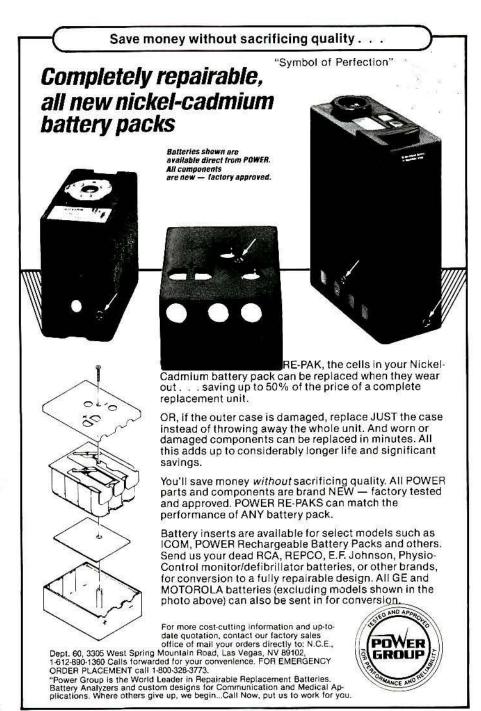
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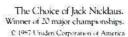
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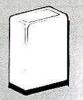
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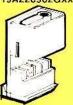
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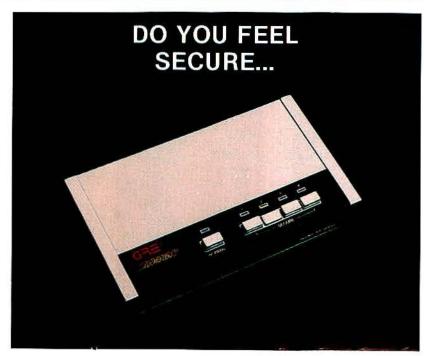
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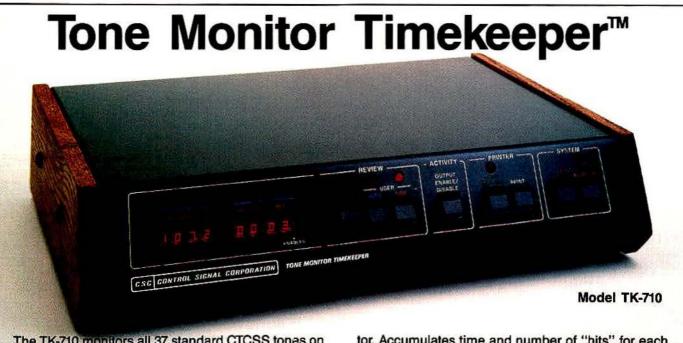
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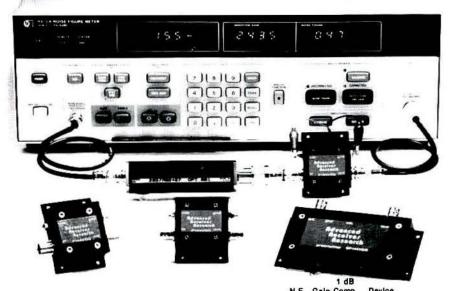
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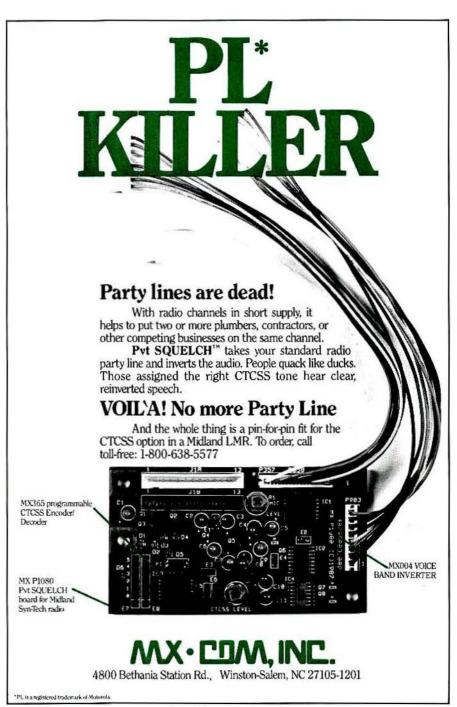
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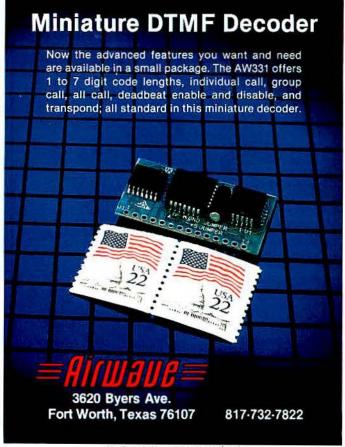
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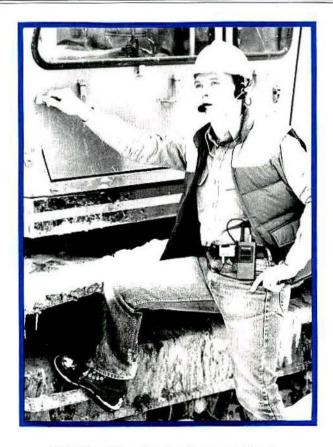
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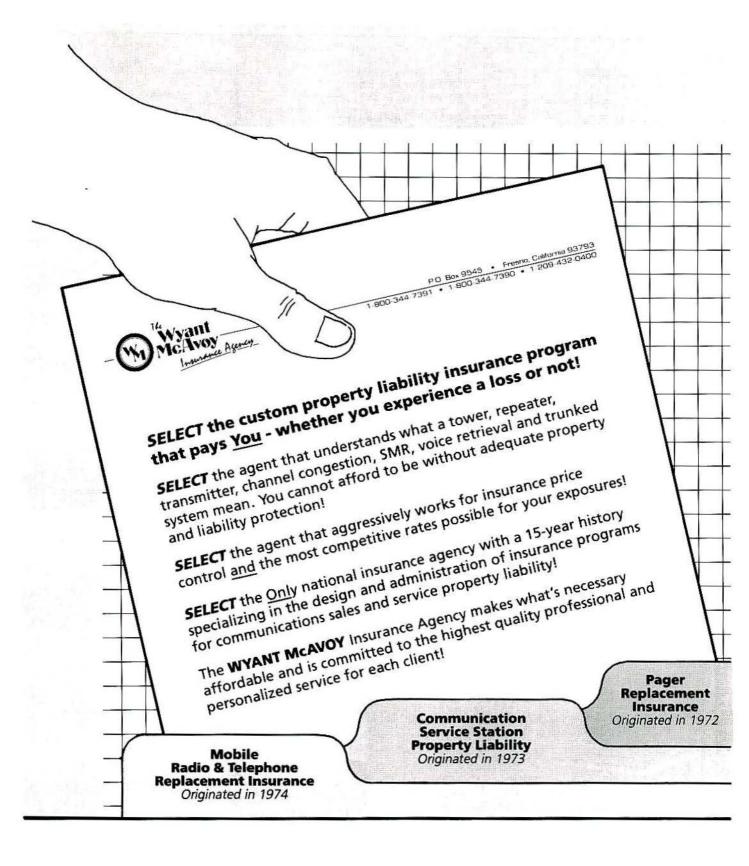
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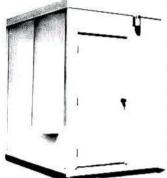
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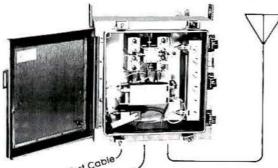
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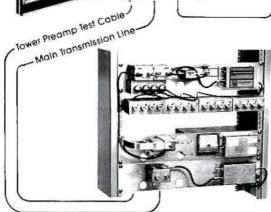
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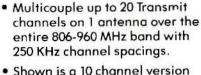
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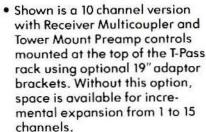
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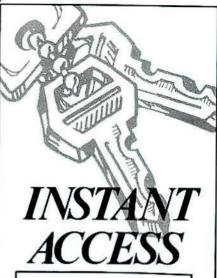
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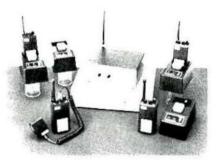
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Telocator wrap-up/review

Minilec Service's simple technical innovation promises to boost voice paging popularity. Nationwide paging grows as companies jockey for position. Telocator Network of America restructures for the future.

By Don Bishop **Editorial Director**

Products, services and political activity captured the interest of those who attended Telocator Network of America's national convention Oct. 20-24 in San Francisco.

Voice storage and retrieval circuitry developed by Minilec Service promises to:

- boost voice paging popularity;
- offer an alternative to two-way radio users who are considering mobile data communications; and
- make it possible to record parts of a cellular phone conversation.

To receive information from the companies mentioned in this article, circle on the Fast Fact Card on page 131 the numbers listed below:

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National Satellite Paging

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The circuitry may boost the popularity of voice paging because it can store multiple messages and replay them at a rate slowed by a factor of three times or more. The pager can remain quiet or unattended during reception. Voice retrieval built into the pager allows the user to review messages and makes unnecessary a "quick draw" from the belt to raise the pager to one's ear in time to hear an incoming message.

Slowing the replay of messages received permits transmitting the messages at a higher speed. Highspeed voice transmission reduces the airtime consumed. Methods that reduce airtime consumed per message always are popular among paging system operators.

Record two-way messages

Installed in a two-way radio, the circuit can record several separate messages under DTMF (Touch-Tone) control exercised by the dispatcher, so the mobile operator can replay them at will. The circuit also records the most recent 52 seconds of conversation for later replay, transmits recorded messages in functions similar to those of an answering machine or car alarm, and retransmits received messages in a simplex repeater mode.

Installed in a cellular phone, the circuit's "record" and "playback" buttons allow the user to record and replay selected segments of a conversation, such as driving directions or a list of items. Described as a voice scratchpad, this function offers a safe way for a driver to take notes. It works with handsets and with hands-free cellular units. The circuit can be configured to work as a telephone answering machine or to provide automatic dialing and the replay of a recorded message in conjunction with a car alarm.

Nationwide paging

Technology and marketing battles continue between nationwide paging services.

National Satellite Paging uses dedicated 900MHz transmitters and numeric pagers. Contemporary Group also will use 900MHz.

Metrocast shares existing VHF transmitters owned by radio common carriers to carry messages to alphanumeric pagers. Telefind will share existing RCC VHF and UHF transmitters.

Cue Paging uses FM broadcast station subsidiary carrier authorizations (SCAs, or subcarriers) to carry messages to alphanumeric pagers.

Technology battle: "A 900MHz system is the only one that sends a message through all its transmitters at once, covering the entire nation." "Subcarriers use FM broadcast station transmitters with higher power than conventional paging transmitters." "Existing RCC transmitter coverage areas are proven; 'dead spots' have been corrected."

Marketing battle: "Systems with the least new capital construction offer customers better rates." "Nationwide paging service customers will find that alphanumeric capability is essential." "My system covers more - cities - markets - land area - population - than yours."

Telefind vice president Ted Andros, speaking after the panel session, criticized Telocator for inviting representatives of National Satellite Paging, Contemporary Group and Cue Paging in the first place. "They have nothing to offer Telocator members," he said, "unless they hope to rent pagers to them individually. Only Telefind and Metrocast share revenues with RCCs in exchange for carrying paging messages. The others transmit

messages to customers using their own transmitters or via facilities leased from broadcasters.'

A sixth nationwide paging company, Network Paging, is in the initial stages of connecting existing private carrier systems to relay messages nationwide on 152.480MHz.

Association struggles

Telocator itself continues to wrestle with issues that affect its health and growth, such as how to reconcile the interests of large and small members, and paging and cellular telephone members. The association has responded with weighted voting for members and changes in the board of directors.

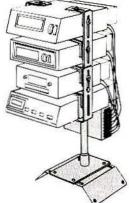
Mobile Communications Corporation of America senior vice

president of engineering Jai Bhagat was elected to chair what will become a single board of directors. The new board will be formed from what previously were separate cellular telephone and paging boards. (The paging board also represented conventional mobile telephone interests.)

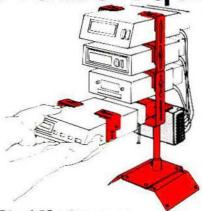
The new board will have 27 representatives from companies classified by size: large, medium and small, with nine from each classification. Each director will have one vote. Changes in the board structure are expected to be in place well before the next Telocator meeting to be held in St. Louis in the spring.

Members approved weighted voting, giving each member one vote per \$5,000 in annual dues.

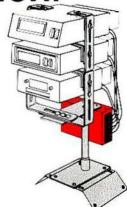
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Practical uses for digital and packet

Extending wireline integrated services digital network features to ground-based and airborne mobile telephone services may be made possible by advanced digital and packet switching technologies.

By Dr. Gregory M. Stone and Philip M. Raymond

Mobile communications services long have been the "resting place" for simplistic and, often, antiquated technologies that make poor use of the limited radio frequency spectrum resource. Today, with extreme spectrum congestion in major metropolitan areas and increased user demands for communication of all types, ingenuity and innovation must be directed toward an effective technological solution.

Analog ACSSB

In the late 1970s, communication pioneers such as Dr. Richard Harris mated the linear transmission technique known as single-sideband with syllabic amplitude companding, both having been developed in the 1930s to support wireless transatlantic telephone service. The result

Stone is director of advanced project development with Sachs/Freeman Associates, Lake Bluff, IL. He previously was systems engineering director for Airfone. Stone has a Ph.D.E.E. and is a Fellow in the Radio Club of America. Raymond is a senior engineer with Sachs/Freeman and previously was a group leader with Airfone. He has a B.S.E.E. and is a member of IEE, United Kingdom. Opinions expressed in this article are the authors' and do not necessarily represent those of Sachs/Freeman or other staff members. The authors thank Fred A. Schmitt for his assistance in preparing this article.

is known as amplitude companded single-sideband or ACSSB, in mobile applications. Even Harris and his contemporaries recognized the limitations of strictly analog techniques because other communications developments were advancing rapidly in the digital arena.

But progress has been slow, not only in implementing efficient digital techniques but even with proven analog technologies such as ACSSB. Today, the "debate" continues in the mobile communications community over FM vs. ACSSB.

Radical direction

A radical new technological direction for mobile communications emphasizes integrating bandwidth-efficient digital and time-hopping multiplexing technologies with a spectrally efficient application of direct-sequence spread-spectrum transmission techniques.

The benefits of this approach are multifold:

- (1) bandwidth and spectrally efficient modulation; and,
- (2) time-hopping multiplexing techniques are employed to conserve precious

are employed to conserve precious spectrum. The techniques are digitally based, thus permitting integrated services digital networks (ISDN) to be implemented in mobile communications. A properly engineered digital spread-spectrum system may be overlayed upon existing services and frequency bands, caus-

ing insignificant and unnoticeable interference, thus dramatically increasing spectrum use by serving new users and by assuring the non-obsolescence of existing services.

Spread-spectrum transmission also affords users some immunity from interference from other users or from an adversary intent on jamming the communications. Such a system may be encrypted easily too. When encryption is combined with the broadband nature of spread-spectrum modulation, encryption offers not only communications privacy but some degree of true communications security.

Applications

Three applications of this timehopped, direct-sequence spreadspectrum concept immediately come to mind. First, to provide for reliable aeronautical mobile communications, existing 800MHz to 900MHz mobile services may be overlayed. Second, new communications services may be established by overlaying the 900MHz (L-band); 2,400MHz (S-band) industrial, and scientific and medical (ISM) spectrum; and 1,200MHz (L-band) radiolocation and amateur allocations. Third, if information is processed properly and packetized, the proposed Geostar navigational satellite, which already employs a packet version of time-hopping, direct-sequence spread-spectrum, could provide interactive voice, data

and video service to terrestrial. maritime and airborne users.

The reason why systems employing direct-sequence spread-spectrum techniques may be overlaid on existing services is explained easily in terms of spectral power density per unit bandwidth, expressed in watts of power present per hertz (cycle/ second) bandwidth. Spreadspectrum techniques reduce the power present per hertz, making detection by systems with narrow bandwidths difficult. In practice, direct-sequence spread-spectrum energy appears as a slight increase in a conventional system's noise floor and is undiscernible from normal variations in background noise.

For example, a typical FM mobile radio transmitter has a transmitted

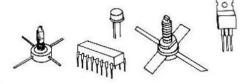
power bandwidth of approximately 16kHz. Assuming a transmitter power of 100W, with no antenna gain or line loss, the effective radiated spectral power density, per unit bandwidth, would be 100W/ 16kHz or 6.25×10^{-3} W/Hz. A properly designed direct-sequence spread-spectrum system suitable for overlaid use, having the same 100W effective radiated power and a spread bandwidth of 40MHz, would have a spectral power flux density of 100W/40MHz or 2.5×10^{-6} W/Hz, which is 1/2,500th the power or 34dB below the conventional systems power density per unit bandwidth.

What is most important to realize is that assuming the future of communications and information transfer is in the area of ISDN, efficient, integrated networks mandate the application of bandwidth and spectrally efficient technologies. Digital signals always occupy more spectrum than their analog counterparts, but the future of efficient bandwidth and spectrum use is contingent upon the proper selection of robust coding, modulation, multiplexing, transmission and detection system technologies.

Integration of voice and data

Historically, voice and digital data have had to be handled over separate (or different) transmission media due to their different characteristics; i.e., analog vs. digital. The years have brought changes in fixed communications services with the

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general acceptance of the 1.544mb/s DS-1 datarate standard for fixed, private, digitized speech and data networks. Today, digital channel bank equipment permits the economic integration of speech and data.

But integration of voice and data has been constrained by the need to allocate discrete segments of spectrum for data or for voice, segments that are unused during periods of inactivity. In telephone practice, certain techniques have been employed to minimize the bandwidth inefficiencies through adaptive bandwidth allocations, but at high cost and with limited success. In the mobile communication services, FCC regulations generally have treated data transmission as a secondary use of allocated bandwidth.

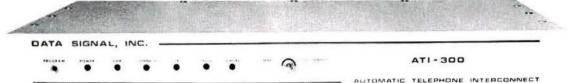
Today, relatively narrowband digital systems are common in the mobile community, both in the form of digital voice for privacy and in the form of digital data systems. But efficient integration of digital voice and data has not been accomplished and cannot be accomplished so long as current crude technologies continue to be used. Even trunked communications systems (both cellular and non-cellular) use inefficient modulation and transmission practices emphasizing analog information transfer.

A network that efficiently accommodates all types of information, including speech and digital data, is required. Such an ISDN combines digitized voice and data in a packetswitched network. In this system, each packet node samples all information channels and sends information to the correct address only when the information channel is being used.

For example, during a spoken conversation, one direction of the channel is used at a time. The reverse direction can be used to convey part of another conversation. Thus the packet switch has some features characteristic of multiplexing, including the requirement for high transmission bit rates compared to the individual channel infor nation rate. Otherwise, the multiplexing (packetizing) efficiency would be low or the blocking of channels high.

The proposed time-hopped,

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direct-sequence spread-spectrum concept may accommodate the requirements of packet information transmission, fostering the transition to ISDN.

Impact on cellular

Cellular mobile communications services now are available in many parts of the country. Although cellular generally provides good voice service, it does not have the capability for ISDN features now being advanced by the fixed telephone network providers. These features include integrated voice and data, high-speed signaling schemes and video transmission. The next-generation cellular systems must provide for features transparent to the public switched telephone network, including ISDN. Furthermore, because most users wish to have their business and personal telephone conversations and/or information transfers kept confidential, effective means to implement a robust communications privacy capability must be provided.

To provide ISDN features and communications privacy, a digitally based cellular network is needed. In response to this need and to increase the bandwidth and spectrum efficiency of cellular communications, certain proposals are being considered in Europe for digitally based time-division multiple-access (TDMA) cellular techniques using 16kbp/s digital speech. These TDMA techniques differ from current cellular techniques, which are

referred to as frequency-division multiple-access (FDMA). With FDMA, channels are frequencybased and use 25kHz to 30kHz each. In a TDMA system, channels are time-based. A slice of spectrum (300kHz, in one proposed technique developed by Ericsson) is divided into time slots, in this case permitting simultaneous use by 10 users. An American company, International Mobile Machines, has proposed a similar TDMA technique that would permit 40 users simultaneously to share a 300kHz spectrum slice.

Although these time-hopping TDMA techniques hold great promise, they do not employ directsequence spread-spectrum for transmission and thus cannot be overlaid upon existing allocations to increase

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spectrum use substantially. Nevertheless, the authors strongly support and endorse the application of low bit rate digital voice in a timehopped (TDM or TDMA) implementation for future terrestrial cellular or common carrier uses.

Second-generation cellular

Considering the physical plant and subscriber set investment in cellular today, phasing-in a secondgeneration, digitally based cellular system may be quite a challenge. Although frequency-hopped and time-hopped technology may be the ultimate solution where existing interstitial cellular frequencies are used, attempts to modernize the existing cellular service might only be as widely accepted as ACSSB is now. On the other hand, establishing a new digital cellular service overlaid on either the existing L-band or S-band ISM or L-band radiolocation and amateur allocations holds great promise if timehopped, direct-sequence spreadspectrum is employed.

For example, a time-hopped, direct-sequence spread-spectrum system operating with 40MHz of overlaid S-band radiolocation spectrum could be designed as follows: Assuming the use of low bit rate voice coding with a process such as vector-quantized linear-predictive coding (VQ-LPC) operating at bit rate of 4.8kb/s, time multiplexing with a resulting 50-channel complement and an aggregate information rate of 500kb/s easily is achieved. This 500kb/s information rate signal, driving a direct-sequence spread-spectrum modulator with 2-psk modulation, would "spread" this signal over the 40MHz bandwidth. The result would be a signal with 1/1,600th the power per cycleper-second bandwidth of a conventional frequency-modulated signal. As was stated previously, the reduction in spectral power density stated in watts-per-hertz (cycle-per-second)

as provided by direct-sequence spread-spectrum is the key to overlaid spectrum use without harmful interference.

Impact on aeronautical mobile

Application of time-hopped, direct-sequence spread-spectrum technology to aeronautical mobile communications may be of the utmost importance. Today, the future of aeronautical mobile communica-

...two unique solutions to aeronautical mobile communications are foreseen.

tions is uncertain as various factions clamor over the remaining 800/900MHz reserve spectrum. But two unique solutions to aeronautical mobile communications are foreseen. The first involves the spreadspectrum overlay of the existing 800MHz and 900MHz services: the second involves use of excess transponder capacity of a global positioning satellite.

In the several years leading to the FCC's allocation of 800/900MHz reserve spectrum, proposals were made to permit shared aeronautical and cellular spectrum use. For various reasons, the commission deemed such an arrangement inadvisable. The FCC's decision was correct because the proposed modulation techniques were then and today remain incompatible with present cellular service and a likely secondgeneration cellular service using narrowband digital channels.

But the current 800MHz aeronautical mobile telephone service, which lacks a permanent allocation, finds a permanent frequency via spectrum sharing. An aeronautical service represents an ideal spectrumsharing partner for several reasons, including the fact that there is a finite and relatively small number of potential aircraft to be equipped for sake of argument assume there are 5,000.

In light of this fact and considering the service's method of operation, it is likely that fixed stations supporting the operation also would be relatively few and their locations easily controlled. Therefore, if a well-engineered time-hopped, direct-sequence spread-spectrum system were overlaid on existing terrestrial systems employing either FM, ACSSB or other types of "normal or narrowband" transmission techniques, airborne spreadspectrum usage would be possible without causing harmful interference to existing services. Additional interference management and control could be effected through the careful selection of fixed-station spreadspectrum sites and by using antennas that suppress signal radiation at and below the horizon. If provision must be made for the telephones to be used while the aircraft may be on the ground, RF power emitted by the aircraft-mounted transmitters could be controlled to minimize any interference during this mode of operation.

Aeronautical mobile system

A time-hopped, direct-sequence spread-spectrum system could be designed specifically for overlaid aeronautical use in the 800MHz to 900MHz band. High, near-tollquality voice coding would be effected through the use of vectorquantized linear-predictive coding (VQ-LPC) at a rate of 4.8kb/s. With redundancy coding and signaling, this rate would be increased to 9.6kb/s. A time-hopped, timedivision multiplex scheme would be employed that would accommodate 50 TDM "channels" each operating at the 9.6kb/s rate. The timehopped multiplexer would operate at an information rate of 500kb/s, including signaling requirements. With a 100MHz spread bandwidth, a direct-sequence code rate of 50Mb/s would be employed. Airborne and terrestrial transmitting equipment would operate with a 100W power output and an effective dipole radiated power of 200W. The radiated power density per unit bandwidth would then be 200W/ 100MHz or only 2.0 \times 10⁻⁶ W/Hz.

The time-hopped direct-sequence spread-spectrum approach has several other benefits that would be useful in aeronautical service. For example, in selecting the appropriate direct-sequence operating limitations, the direct-sequence coding may afford a particularly robust type of ranging that may be used for

accurately selecting the best ground station for communication. Of course, the ranging data also could be used to track aircraft, with the tracking information then becoming useful in placing calls from a ground station to an aircraft.

Using these digital technologies greatly reduces the size and weight of the communications equipment. Transceiver design is simplified because time switching eliminates the need for separate transmitters and receivers and their associated filtering requirements. Therefore, one time-hopped direct-sequence transceiver could accommodate as many as 50 simultaneous users. If traffic engineering dictates, more than one transceiver could be simultaneously operated to provide

50 more channel trunk complements if orthogonal direct codes are selected.

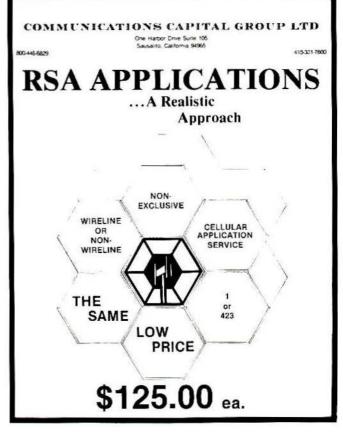
What's ahead for digital

The future of bandwidth and spectrally efficient digital technology looks promising. With the current, mature VLSI and MMIC technologies available, no technological barriers are foreseen that would prevent time-hopped, direct-sequence spread-spectrum systems at frequencies approximately as high as 2,500MHz from being implemented soon.

Already, Geostar is staging itself to launch a geosynchronous earth satellite that will translate L-band and S-band packetized direct-

Continued on page 141





Lowband paging system uses 50 transmitter sites

PageAmerica's New York paging system simulcasts on a 35MHz frequency to the nation's largest market. The construction details serve as a model for other major system projects.

By Richard Contrera

In 1983, PageAmerica resold paging services in several major markets throughout the United States. The management decided that if the company was to grow and become more profitable, it must construct and operate its own paging systems in a number of major markets, of which New York was on top of the list. Considering the highly competitive nature of this particular market and the fact that several quite large and well-established systems existed, its challenge was to build a 35MHz wide-area paging channel with coverage to match that of existing systems and with the reliability that usually comes only after years of service. The 35MHz frequency has the reputation of being difficult to construct and unpredictable. The time frame was tight. And the city is the country's largest.

The construction challenge was met. Eighteen months after the start of construction, PageAmerica had a system in operation with coverage from Hartford, CT, to the north, the Hamptons of Long Island to the east, Cape May of New Jersey to the south and the Pennsylvania border to the west. It gained the reputation

Contrera is engineering vice president of PageAmerica Group, Hackensack, NJ. He holds a B.S.E.E. for quick, reliable and high-quality service at the same time.

Initial FCC applications

Upon acceptance of the plan, we filed 30 separate site applications with the FCC on 35.24MHz. They defined the overall proposed coverage area perimeter as well as those areas that would require fill-in transmitters later. The criteria for selecting the sites then were not necessarily based on rigorous site analysis but in many cases on the basis of availability. As construction permits (CPs) were granted and construction deadlines established, a more sophisticated approach to site analysis, as well as system design, began to unfold. This design eventually led to shifting several sites originally selected, as well as to adding almost 15 more.

Defining the system

The first step for a project engineer in constructing an RF telecommunications system is to define the major characteristics that will describe its basic functions, goals and costs. The following questions define those parameters:

- · What service is to be provided?
- How is the service provided?
- Where is the service to be provided?
- What grade of service is to be provided, and what is the target for probability of message receipt?
 - What is the potential revenue,

and what are the operating costs?

 What are the costs, and how long will it take?

The marketing staff must answer several of these questions, but all items affect the overall design. In our case, both marketing and engineering worked together to define and refine the type of system and the services it would provide.

The service to be offered was simple: nothing but paging. Of the paging techniques available, digital modulation offered the optimum combination of reliability, speed, quality and versatility. The simple NRZ-FSK binary format tolerates low signal strength, noisy environments, and many discrete codes extremely well. Keeping the system solely digital makes the transmission more efficient because the terminal and the transmitters need not alter batching techniques nor shift modulation from digital to analog and back. It simplifies and reduces time needed to send pages of mixed format. It also maximizes the number of pagers on the channel and therefore increases the potential revenue the channel can produce.

We knew the system would cover the New York tri-state area, and we knew it would be impractical to build it to offer the same grade of service in all areas. Manhattan and the immediate surroundings include heavily constructed and densely packed buildings. Topography surrounding New York is flat, like Long Island, and rugged, like the the Ramapo mountains of northern New Jersey. We further defined areas with dense population, commercial construction and transportation routes, and we decided where heavy or light penetration would be necessary. The next challenge was how to design a cost-effective paging system quickly using a lowband frequency.

Propagation design

To design the paging system, we needed to know how a 35MHz channel would perform and under what circumstances. We began by speaking to traditional paging and twoway radio common carrier (RCC) system operators; most major transmitter, antenna and terminal manufacturers; as well as several consultants and highly regarded experts. Everyone had a different opinion. No one had a clearly defined method to predict, to a reasonable degree, the penetration and RF coverage that could be achieved by various placements of base stations.

The Carey method and its associated curves make for attractive sales tools, but, unfortunately, they sometimes misrepresent actual coverage. This is especially true if the coverage area includes topography that varies considerably over short distances and that contains heavily constructed buildings.

The FCC Carey procedures use an average elevation technique that can disguise coverage problems that result from sharply elevating terrain gradients. The method requires drawing eight radials (one every 45°) from the point of transmission and averaging elevation from 2 to 10 miles along those radials, as represented on a U.S. Geological survey map or an equivalent digitized database.

Ambient noise levels and receiver input level data were obtained from studies made in 1952 using the 152MHz band. Performance and

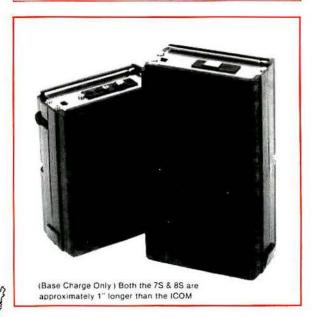
levels of service from that channel then were used as the basis of performance in the 35MHz to 44MHz bands. A factor was added to the minimum required signal to achieve the so-called 90% reliability grade of service. Little attention is given to factors such as slow fade, fast fade,

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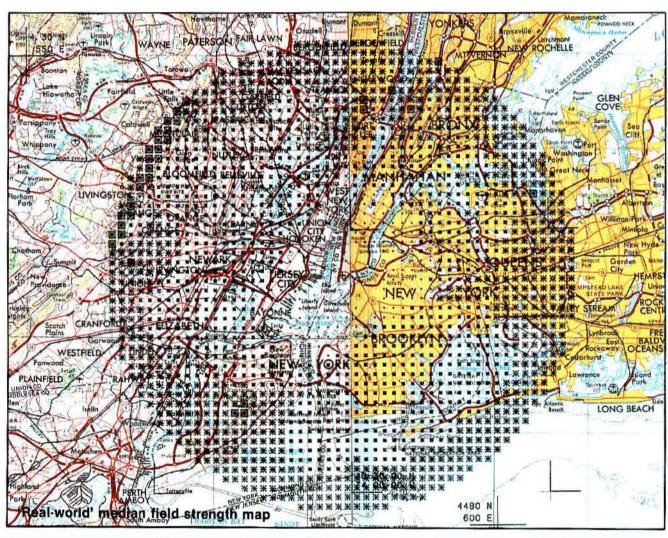
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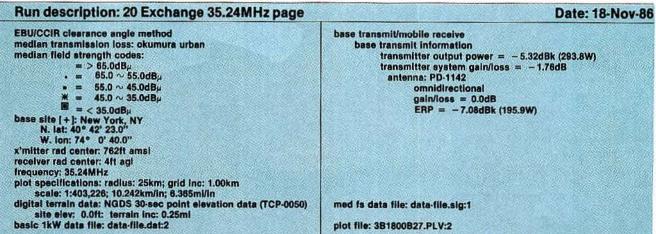


Figure 1. PageAmerica uses 'real-world' models of actual RF levels shown on topographical maps to construct an overall model of the paging system. Comp Comm, a New Jersey-based engineering firm, supplies projections for each site such as the one shown above for a site at 20 Exchange Place, New York.

movement of the receiver, attenuations due to foliage, and size and type of buildings, not to mention the latest communication techniques, including simulcasting and digital modulation.

Our investigation included several studies that were helpful in expanding our understanding of modern lowband modulation techniques. Some of the more useful were: Bullington, Radio Propagation Fundamentals-1956; L.P. Rice, Radio Transmission in Buildings at 35 and 150 mc-1958; C.D. Gray, The Simulcasting Technique-1979; T. Hattori, Theoretical Studies of a Simulcasting Digital Radio Paging System Using a Carrier Frequency Offset Strategy-1980 and various papers by major RCC equipment

manufacturers. (This is only a small sample of the studies available on the subject, many of which are available at the IEEE library in New York City.)

Using this general background, we began to formulate a method of more accurately predicting coverage and penetration of proposed transmitter locations. During discussions with Comp Comm, a New Jerseybased engineering firm, we found its "real-world" studies had the basis of the model we needed. (See Figure 1 on page 124.)

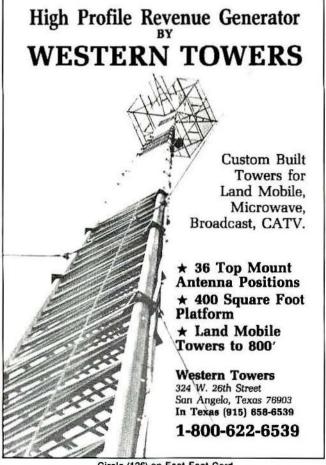
Although, at the time, the model was theoretical at 35MHz, it could provide actual RF levels (dBµ per meter) over highly detailed topographical maps in a 25km radius from the antenna. This was a signi-

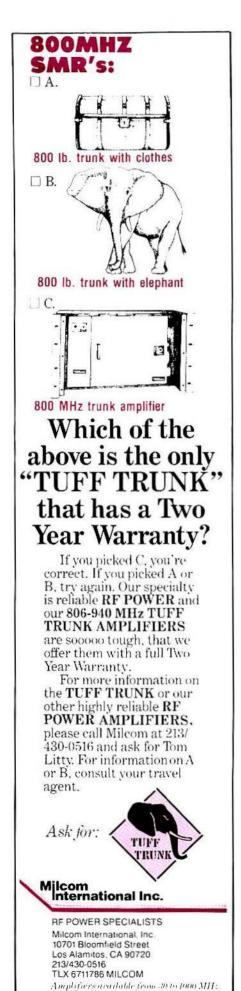
ficant step in achieving a more accurate picture of the interactions of a specific antenna, power level and the effects of terrain on the standard RF propagation model.

Having tested to account for factors such as slow fade and adding a factor for the required 90% probability (based on using a pager with a 1µV receiver sensitivity), we began to construct a usable model. To our advantage, the 35MHz band has significantly less attenuation due to foliage. The signals travel over greater distances at lower frequencies than they do at higher frequencies. To our disadvantage, 35MHz signals have a reduced ability to enter and bounce in buildings.

To account for these variations, we adjusted the real-world levels by







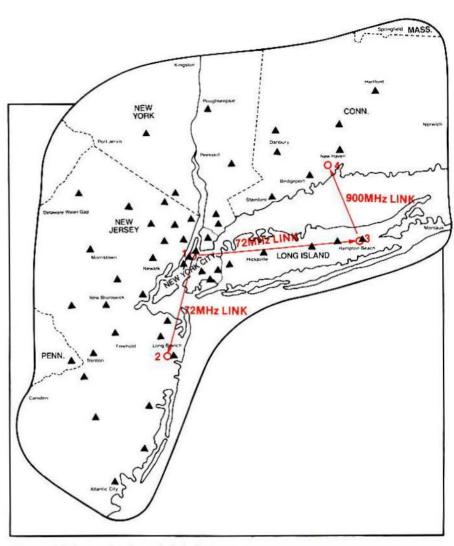


Figure 2. The system's radiolink includes a redundant link transmitter in mid-Manhattan and three redundant link repeaters in Long Island, Connecticut and New Jersey. All 50 base station transmitters operate from the four link transmitters.

several factors (based on our field tests and available studies). We varied these factors depending on population density, transportation routes and average building size contained within the radius.

As an example, the levels as displayed graphically over a 25km radius from an antenna located on a building roof might indicate areas of field intensity from 65dBµ or greater to 35dBu or less. If this particular area contained heavy buildings and we needed a 90% or better probability, we discounted coverage in all areas that had field intensities below a certain level. This reduced the predicted effective coverage of the proposed location and helped us to decide whether to carry out the installation as planned

or find a better site. To account for building penetration alone, we chose a conservative 30dB reduction factor for heavy buildings and a 25dB reduction factor for mediumsized buildings.

RF hardware design

The hardware design was based on providing reliable and highquality service at low operating costs. To achieve this goal, financial considerations sometimes took the back seat.

The system would be controlled exclusively by radiolink, and paging messages would be simulcast. This decision was easy because the alternative to radiolinks were telco circuits, and trying to manage 40 to 45 sites with phone lines is simply unthinkable. Simulcast systems offer several advantages and, if the system is properly maintained, no real disadvantages.

Because we had decided to restrict the system to a digital format, the small frequency offsets and close modulation tolerances required for analog paging were reduced substantially. We gained speed and reliability. With a system this large, the operating costs are high, and the system must operate at peak efficiency. We were confident that the New York market could supply the demand for our services in sufficient volume for an appropriate pay back.

The radio linking consists of one redundant link transmitter in a building in mid-Manhattan and

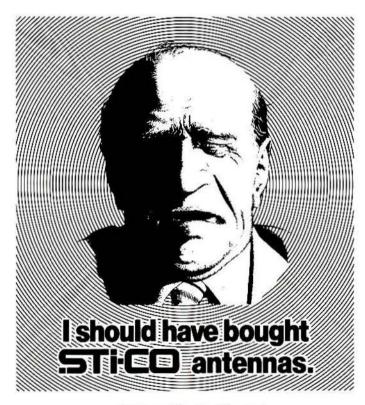
three redundant link repeaters in Long Island, Connecticut and New Jersey. (See Figure 2 on page 126.) From these four transmitters, all 50 base stations are operated. All four are backed with uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems.

Because of the high radio frequency interference (RFI) levels at some locations, we installed crystalcontrolled filters and amplifiers to eliminate noise that might otherwise have entered the link receivers. Noise is particularly a problem in link repeater sites because, if not filtered, it would be repeated and would affect all the base stations linked with the affected repeaters.

At many sites, including a duplexer on our base antenna served both to transmit the paging frequency and to receive the link control signal. Thus, we saved the expense of installing a second antenna.

The design did not specifically incorporate isolators and cavities, although we knew at least 50% of our sites would need one or both to help combat intermodulation products as well as television interference (TVI). It was difficult to predict, however, what we would need until we began each installation project.

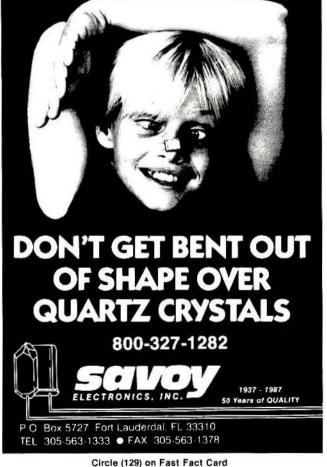
Generally, omnidirectional antennas were specified wherever possible. Particularly in the cities, the last thing we needed was a high-gain, narrow-beam antenna. The goal was to distribute power evenly. Radiating down was just as important as achieving distance. This was correlated with data from the 1958





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Bell System studies that indicated lower signal strength losses on higher floors of buildings than in the lobbies.

The first choice for antennas was the Celwave 1142 or its equivalent. The catch, however, was that an antenna such as the 1142 requires at least one-half wavelength spacing between it and the nearest reflector or other antenna. At lowband frequencies, that is about 15 feet. Finding buildings and towers with available space is not easy in a major metropolitan city.

A possible solution is to install a Celwave 322 (or equivalent), a twoelement 2.5dB gain antenna with a precut harness. This works fine on most towers (although it takes two antenna positions), but it still can be

bothersome to mount on a building. The PD128 (or equivalent) is another possible solution, but again, the long ground plane elements can be an unwanted mechanical impediment to a building owner who wishes to fill every last inch of rentable space from his roof.

Accordingly, we used various antennas to fit the individual site requirements. As far as the brands of antenna are concerned, we used Celwave, Decibel Products and, in a few instances, perhaps one or two others. There is no magic in antenna performance. Many claims antenna users make are purely subjective and rarely backed by in-depth and rigorous electrical performance comparisons.

Generally, an antenna's mechan-

ical design is predetermined by the specifications for its frequency, gain and pattern, so overall dimensions of different manufacturers' antennas are quite similar.

The most important factors in choosing an antenna brand are the customer's confidence that the antenna meets its published performance specifications and the unit's mechanical soundness and durability. Although customers rarely can confirm that an antenna meets published specifications unless they have a test range, visual inspection may confirm the mechanical integrity and durability to some extent.

Because the antenna is possibly the most significant element of the RF system and it is beyond the

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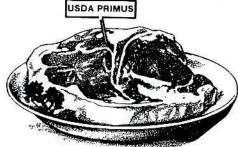
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resources of most customers to test the vertical and horizontal pattern, customers purchasing many antennas should inspect the manufacturing facilities and view for themselves both the assembly and final test. Also, always install the antenna to manufacturer's specifications. Significant pattern variations due to incorrect installation usually are not revealed by a simple voltage standing wave ratio (VSWR) test, but such variations may cause substantial coverage problems.

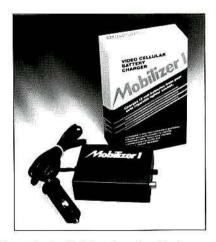
Terminal and facilities

We considered several terminals and finally chose a Spectrum Communications PX2000L. It offered a reasonable compromise in speed, capacity and flexibility. The fact that Spectrum's facilities are within our coverage area gave us confidence that we would get excellent service.

The initial unit was designed for 30 trunks, but once it was installed, it quickly grew to 50. We ordered a 48Vdc unit because our design called for an Elgin 48 battery system to power the terminal. This system supplies operating voltage to the terminal directly from batteries while the batteries are being charged constantly. Battery capacity is sufficient to operate the terminal for 24 hours during a utility failure. A backup generator recharges the batteries during a prolonged failure. The battery system also isolates the terminal from all power fluctuations, surges and spikes.

Each trunk and telco circuit leading to the terminal is wired through a patch field. A monitor tap facilitates test of the circuits without disconnecting the line.

The grounding system is a separate fourth-wire copper bar with all equipment bonded to it in a nonloop arrangement. The facility is in an office environment and rests on a computer floor. Separate wall air conditioners with thermostats set slightly higher than the central HVAC system give sufficient backup during an air conditioner failure. The fire control system is Hylon gas, which extinguishes flames without damaging equipment or leaving any residue. The billing system is fully interfaced with the paging terminal.



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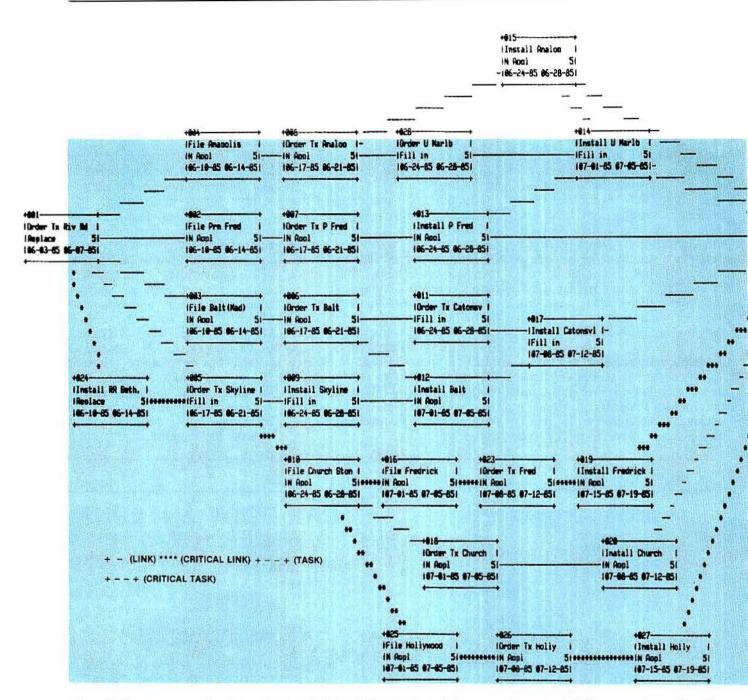


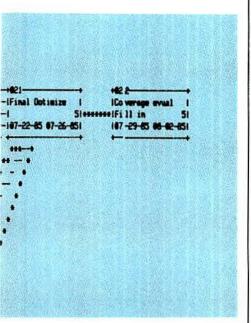
Figure 3. The program evaluation and review (PERT) technique was used to manage the project. Software packages that offer PERT include Harvard Project Management and SuperProject. Both are easy to learn and data can be transferred to popular software programs such as Lotus.

Throughout the entire project, the disciplining force that kept our focus on the overall objectives was the project management system. A project, whether as large as this one or as small as adding a transmitter or two to an existing system, is nothing more than a series of related tasks performed to reach a specific objective. The larger the project, the easier it becomes to lose sight of the objective and get hung up on individual tasks.

It also becomes essential to put on paper all the tasks, the time and cost of each task, and the order in which tasks must be performed. If this were not done, not only would it be difficult to monitor progress, but it would be easier to miss an important task.

This process also helps to save money. Ordering all goods and services long before you need them ensures you have everything you need to complete the project but certainly costs your company more in monthly expenses, as well as idle inventory. The trick is to balance what you need with when you need it without forgetting any essential items. Program evaluation and review technique (PERT) and Gantt charts achieve that end.

The PERT chart is a series of boxes interconnected with lines. (See Figure 3 above.) Each box represents a task, when it is to be performed, and by whom. The lines



represent the relationship between those tasks.

For instance, our entire project, in its minimal form, could be three consecutively connected boxes labeled: "decide to build a paging channel," "build a paging channel," and "sell on the paging channel." The actual PERT chart for our project incorporated more than 200 tasks.

The second chart, called Gantt (named after its originator, Henry Laurence Gantt), is a series of events or tasks listed as time lines against a calendar. Other means of monitoring the project include task details and resource Gantts (resource is the person or service performing a task) as well as summaries labor and capital costs.

Once a model is put together it is not permanent. Quite the contrary, models always are being changed and revised. In fact, one of the benefits of this system is the ability to see quickly how a particular change would affect the overall cost and completion date.

In the old days, PERT charts were laid out by hand on wall-sized pieces of paper. (In fact, I hung them on the walls.) Fortunately,



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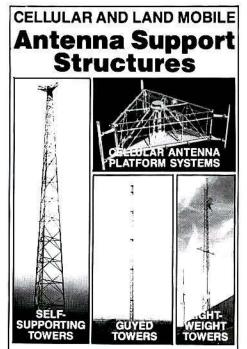
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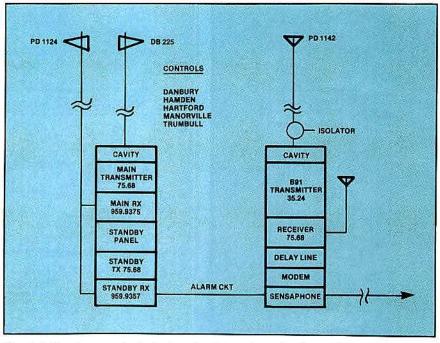


Figure 4. The diagram of a typical paging transmitter site shows the equipment complement selected for linking, site monitoring and control, and paging transmission.

several convenient software packages are available that neatly draw all the boxes and charts and calculate all the costs, schedules and changes. Two that I have used and would recommend are Harvard Project Management and Super-Project. Both are easy to learn, and data can be transferred to popular software programs such as Lotus. They certainly save many hours and many erasers.

Equipment selections

Approximately eight months before the expiration of many CPs, the arduous task of vendor selection began. I already have indicated some of the vendors selected. The remaining major vendor was Motorola, which won the award for the transmission equipment. The company's B91 transmitters with link equipment were used throughout. (See Figure 4 above.)

For assurance that we would receive the proper equipment and that it would meet the manufac-

turer's specification, we reserved and exercised the right to make inhouse inspections of the final product before it was shipped. We could inspect the product electrically and physically, thus eliminating any subsequent misunderstandings.

The initial pager selection included Motorola's BPR 200, Envoy and Optrx, all with Golay sequential code digital format. Golay is slower than RPC1 (formerly POCSAG), but it has more error correction. The added equivalent sensitivity the Golay format offered for the newly installed system was expected to help to overcome any areas that were not up to specification. As the system is fine-tuned, however, we will begin to take advantage of the higher RPC1 speeds.

The installation begins

Much of the antenna and line installation work, along with final site lease negotiation and execution, began approximately two months before CP expiration dates. When possible, we negotiated leases that would become effective upon the installation of the equipment, but often this was not possible. The terminal arrived early. The transmitters arrived only six weeks before the CP expiration dates.

We rented temporary storage space along with receiving and delivery services from the storage company. This eased the daily problem of unloading trucks, accepting delivery and reshipping the equipment to the various sites scattered over three states.

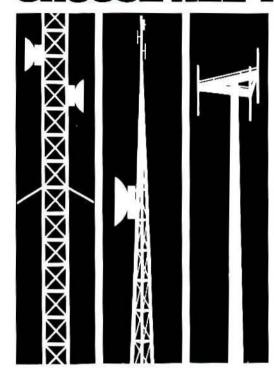
At this point chief engineer Joe Mitchell seemed to be in 12 places at once. Actual radio equipment installation was accomplished by no fewer that eight different contractors with as many as four working at different locations simultaneously. Mitchell then would inspect each installation, inventory the equipment, photograph the site, perform a few brief measurements, check for FCC requirements, turn the equipment on, contact the FCC, and move on to the next site.

It certainly would have been simpler to have one contractor install all the equipment, but unfortunately that was impossible. Two companies installed approximately 10 sites, but others had to be installed solely by the owner or the owner's agent. Motorola controlled several sites and only its crews could perform the installations there. A few other sites were too far away for the preferred shops.

The logistics of what, where, how it got there, when it arrived, access and directions to the site proved to be monumental. Fifteen CPs that expired in November 1985 and 10 that expired in February 1986 were installed and licensed. For the next three months we tuned, and in some cases repaired, this initial system.

Some of the major problems solved then involved setting simulcast levels and offsets, TVI, intermod, equipment failures and a few others such as leaking roofs and

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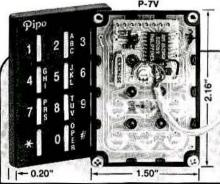
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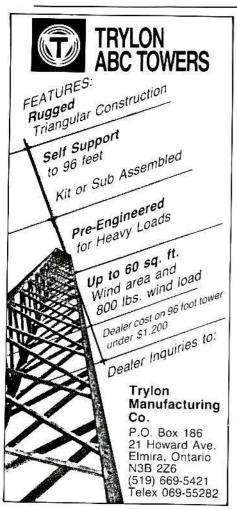
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lack of adequate site space. It seemed that Murphy's law was working overtime and solely on our behalf.

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Resolving TVI problems was much more difficult. In several cases, a harmonic of our fundamental caused the TV interference, especially in locations that housed CATV head ends or master antenna systems. In some of these situations the solution was to install a bandpass cavity on the base station output. Others required blocking filters in the CATV system input. Several required both. A few cases required changing the TV receiving antenna location relative to our antenna. In one or two instances we simply had to shut down and look for a new location.

We usually resolved intermed problems caused by a mix of our station and another by introducing a combination of cavity and isolator.

By April 1986, all of the originally planned sites were working correctly. Next we began finding dead spots in the coverage. The sales force began to sell service in areas with good coverage and began to give us information on coverage gaps.

Field tests with a calibrated antenna and spectrum analyzer helped to define the existing coverage area, as well as the RF energy level in questionable areas. We used computer-based models to screen potential sites. This saved enormous amounts of time and money in finding the best site for a specific area. Fortunately, almost all the sites installed after the initial 25 were fill-in sites.

The process has continued up through today. We currently have 50 operating transmitters. Two additional transmitters are planned to fill the last two identified gaps.

Trunks and numbers

As mentioned in the planning stage, we expected to start with 30 telco trunks originating from various central offices in the tristate area. We were unprepared for the monumental task in dealing with Nynex, AT&T and New Jersey Bell.

SAVE TIME

Telco circuit installation paralleled the transmitter installations. Most of the local New Jersey Bell trunks came in without a major hitch and usually were on time, but the major problem was in New York. Because the paging terminal is in New Jersey, we ordered New York trunks through AT&T, which had, upon receiving our orders 10 months earlier, accepted them without any problem. When delivery time came, however, apparently there was a problem.

Since the divestiture, neither company had written a tariff to permit the three telephone companies to hand off direct inward dialing (DID) numbers and trunks from one to another. We panicked. The more calls we made, the more people we spoke to, the less information we received. It finally was resolved when a special tariff was issued along with appropriate software for the telco switches. From the point of original order to the first trunk installation, 18 months passed. During the 18 months, we probably spoke to everyone in all three telephone companies right up to their presidents.

Each customer brings a special need, so each step in marketing the paging service redefines the system. Area identification, project description, computer models, installation and evaluation continue as we finetune and expand the paging system.

In view of the "total system approach," every change made to any part of the system, whether it be an additional site or an antenna improvement, changes the interrelationship between that part and the whole. Every step, therefore, must be planned carefully.

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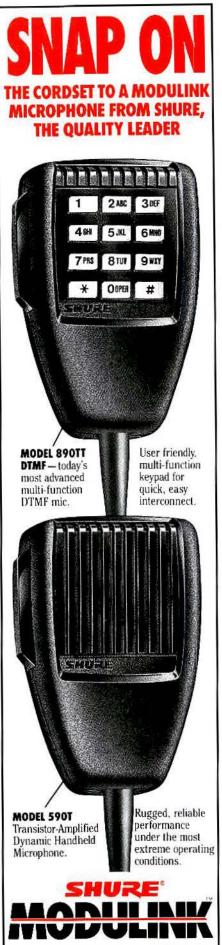
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Operating the system

Operating and maintaining a system this large requires more than people and spare parts; it requires comprehensive maintenance and preventive maintenance plans. Large-scale operations cannot wait for customers to complain about service before taking remedial action, nor can they allow a slowly deteriorating situation to go undetected. To meet a commitment to providing excellent paging services, we installed status monitoring equipment and instituted a formal preventive maintenance program.

The status equipment consists of auto dialers at all link sites, as well as the majority of base stations. These devices automatically warn of equipment failures and monitor the equipment's operating conditions so the overall transmission process can be evaluated continuously. This helps to avoid the need for customer complaints to indicate system problems and can, in many instances, get repairs started even before the customers are aware of problems.

Once integrated into the transmitters, auto dialers can be programmed to report problems associated with low power, high VSWR, utility failure, link receiver operation, environmental conditions, and system activity. Also, we can poll the alarms periodically to generate a status report. Currently, we are integrating all the alarm units into a



centralized control that will abort redundant alarms from failed equipment and automatically contact standby personnel with the alarm information.

The formal preventive maintenance procedure requires a field engineer to visit each site on a scheduled basis. Depending on the importance of the site, it can be as often as once a month or as infrequently as once every four months.

Basic transmitter meter readings are recorded at each visit, and more extensive tests such as link system fade margin measurements may be done less frequently. This is consistent with the philosophy: "If it isn't broken, don't fix it." Monitoring performance should not mean constantly adjusting and "fixing" what already is working fine. It means collecting and evaluating data to detect trends and start a repair before the problem affects service.

Documentation - the final step

The least rewarding step, but certainly not the least important, is final documentation of the system "as built." The entire system is being documented on four levels. The first is an overall block diagram of the entire channel depicting each site (a a block), each link, and the terminal. The second is a block diagram of each site depicting every self-contained device, including, for example, transmitter, filters, duplexers, antenna and line. The third is an inventory of all equipment by site, listing serial number, model and frequency. The fourth is a list and diagram of all telco trunks and their connections to the terminal.

Log books containing this information, as well as maintenance records and any other information that would be useful to the field engineer, should be kept at each site. Without proper documentation, a paging system not only becomes difficult to repair, but in the case of personnel turnover, a disaster in the making.

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sequence spread-spectrum signals. Geostar will succeed. The necessary technology is available, mature and being produced. All that is required to take the next step and make ISDN in the mobile environment a reality is an understanding of the fundamental scientific principles that govern communication along with commitment and perserverence to overcome the biases so deeply entrenched in the mobile radio communications industry today.

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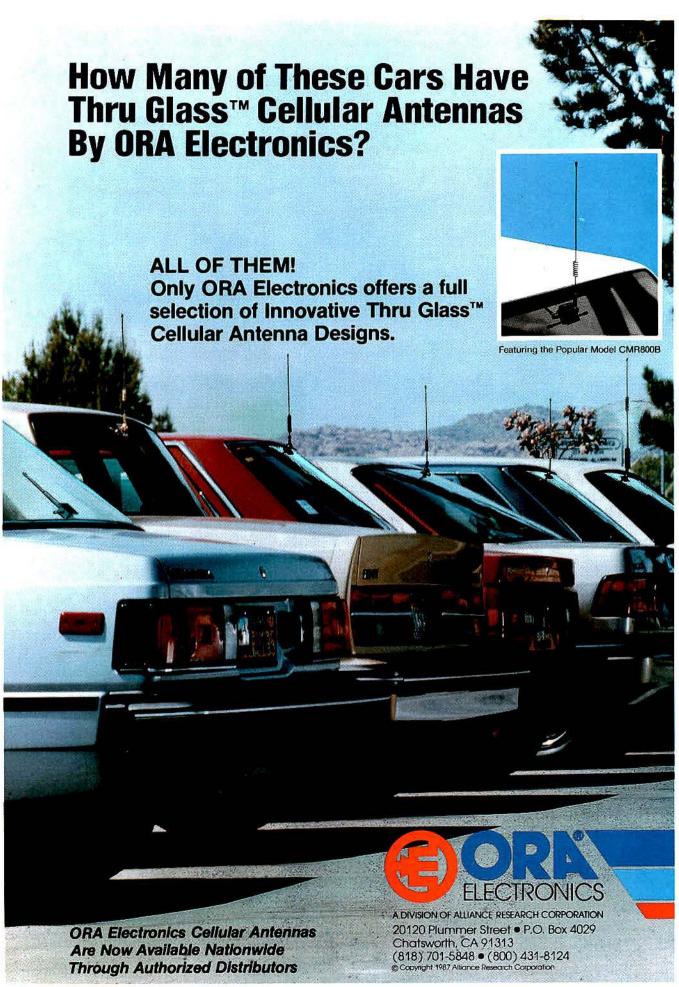
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